

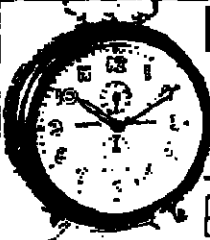
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ARAB TIMES

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Damascus seeks US help on Lebanese peace

Syria tired of military role

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 4, (Agencies): Syria has told the United States that it is tired of its military role in Lebanon and is looking for a political settlement, a senior US official has said.

Syrian leaders said they are trying to write a new constitution and reforms that would be acceptable to all of the warring Muslim and Christian factions in Lebanon, said the official, who spoke on grounds he not be identified.

The official spoke with reporters on Sunday about Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's talks in Damascus over the past two days with Syrian Vice-President Abdel-Halim Khaddam.

The Syrians are trying to

produce an acceptable constitution by May, when the Lebanese Parliament dissolves, so orderly elections can be held in the summer, ending the 13-year-old civil war he said.

Enable

Syrian leaders believe Lebanon has been a drain on them, the US official said, and they are looking for a quick political settlement that would bring peace and enable them to bring their troops home.

Syria sent troops into Beirut in February 1987 to try to end the fighting among Christian, Muslim and Druze factions.

But the burden of that commitment and the prospect of Lebanese presidential elections later this year prompted Syria to

seek US support in encouraging constitutional reforms.

Syrians also want the United States to agree on the broad principles for constitutional reform.

Christians are a minority in Lebanon but they dominate the government. Druze and other Muslim factions have been fighting for a greater share of power.

Future

The Syrians view the United States as having taken the place of France and Britain as an influential force in Lebanese affairs, the official said.

For more than a year, the Lebanese factions have not talked with each other about political reforms but they have been talking separately with Syria and the United States.

The United States and Syria have been developing closer ties in the past few months and US Secretary of State George Shultz has visited Damascus to try to sell a Middle East peace plan.

The Syrians requested the meeting with a senior US official in Damascus in the past few days, at which they disclosed their thoughts for the future of Lebanon, the official said.

State Department officials travelling with Shultz in the Middle East had no official comment.

Shultz, who arrived in Israel on Sunday night, is to visit Syrian President Hafez Al Assad later in the week to discuss the American initiative. It is reported that the Lebanese issue will also be on the agenda.



Jasbir Singh Rode talks with newsmen inside the holy shrine of the Golden Temple in Amritsar. (Reuters wirephoto)

Punjab border sealed

Talk with extremists, Sikh high priest urges Delhi

AMRITSAR, India, April 4, (Reuters): The Indian government must negotiate with extremists waging a bloody separatist campaign if it hopes to end the killing in Punjab, a top Sikh leader said today.

Chief priest Jasbir Singh Rode said he could serve as an intermediary if certain conditions were met and said the government had to establish its credibility with the Sikhs.

The Times of India newspaper said today that India had sealed its border with Pakistan, ordered round-the-clock patrols and stepped up searches of villages to prevent arms smuggling across the border.

The government has also ordered the construction of a 330-mile-long (530 kms) barbed wire fence along Punjab state border with Pakistan to halt arms supplies.

India's External Affairs and Defence Ministry spokesmen declined to comment immediately on the Times of India report.

Jasbir Singh was freed from jail a month ago in the hope he could help the government end the violence that has taken more than 500 lives so far this year.

Invoke

More than 60 people died in the first three days of April alone, leading to expectations Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi would use newly legislated powers to invoke a state of emergency, curtailing civil liberties in the state.

But Punjab governor Siddhartha Shankar Ray, at a news conference today at a heavily guarded government hotel here ruled out an emergency declaration for the time being.

"There has been a spurt in terrorist activities but the number of incidents was more or less the same — although that is hardly any consolation," he said.

Officials here said the reluctance to declare an emergency was based on the government's hope that Jasbir Singh could bring the extremists to the negotiating table.

"If there are any talks they must be with the militants, not with me," he said in the sprawling Golden Temple complex.

India paid money to Prabhakaran

COLOMBO, April 4, (AP): The Indian government paid Sri Lanka's main Tamil rebel leader to ensure his cooperation in a peace accord intended to end the Tamil conflict, India's High Commissioner said today.

High Commissioner J.N. Dixit said Velupillai Prabhakaran, leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, requested the money last July to make up for "taxes" paid the militia by residents of Jaffna, the main Tiger stronghold in northern Sri Lanka.

"India agreed to it and some money was paid," Dixit said. The peace accord, signed by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Sri Lanka President Juvana Jayewardene last July 29, has since been rejected by the Tigers.

The Indian Post newspaper reported the payments yesterday, and Dixit confirmed the story. When asked about the amount, he said he did not know, but added: "Enough money was given to him to take care of his requests at that point in time."

Iran, Iraq resume deadly missile duel

to attacks on Iranian cities during a three-day visit to Baghdad by Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, which ended on Sunday.

Iraq accused Iran on Monday of attacking its forces in the northeastern town of Halabja with chemical weapons and asked the United Nations to carry out an investigation.

Iran's national news agency Ima said the missile was fired at Kirkuk in response to Iraqi air raids on the Iranian cities of Isfahan and Tabriz. It also said Iranian jets bombed a petrochemical complex in Iraq's southern city of Basra.

Iraq has launched 125 missiles at Iran since the latest "war of the cities" erupted in late February. Iran fired about 60 missiles at Iraqi cities.

An unidentified Iraqi military spokesman was quoted by the Iraqi agency as saying: "Because Iran is insisting on its committing more crimes, we shall pound Iranian cities with missiles and other means until they are destroyed."

Iran had blamed Iraq for the latest resurgence of the "war of the cities" and said it would retaliate by launching land offensives across the border.

Meanwhile, a senior Iraqi official reiterated his nation's claim that UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar is biased toward Iran in the Gulf war.

Akram Al Witri, chief of the legal department at the Foreign Ministry, accused Perez de Cuellar of having unspecified "vested interests" in favouring Iran and letting the war continue.

Perez de Cuellar has renewed his appeal to Iran and Iraq to continue the truce in their deadly

(Continued on Page 4)

Any real result unlikely: Sabah

KUWAIT'S Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed said yesterday he did not expect any real result from the latest Middle East tour by US Secretary of State, George Shultz.

He added that Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir's rejection of Shultz' proposals made any practical results remote.

Excuse

He accused Israel of treating Palestinians in the occupied territories worse than the Nazis treated Jews in the Second World War.

"The Jews still talk about their treatment by the Nazis, and take this treatment as an excuse to

plunder other peoples," Sheikh Sabah said.

"But what they are doing now in the occupied territories against our isolated Palestinian brothers — burning, killing, breaking and besieging — far exceeds their charges of Nazi treatment of them."

Sheikh Sabah said only an international conference attended by all concerned parties, including the PLO, could secure peace for the Middle East.

Shultz has proposed a conference leading to direct Arab-Israeli talks on Palestinian self-rule but Shamir rejects proposals for an international meeting.

Asked on the outcome of contacts to hold an emergency Arab

summit called for by Algeria to discuss ways of supporting the Palestinian uprising, Sheikh Sabah said that the issue might be discussed at the upcoming meeting of the Arab foreign ministers, to fix the date and venue of that summit.

The Arab League, meeting in Tunis last week, at the permanent representatives level, recommended holding another session at the foreign ministers level on April 10.

Arab political sources, however, ruled out the holding of the session on the proposed date as it coincides with the meeting in Kuwait of the Organisation of Islamic Conference's secretariat on April 11-12.

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THE WORLD THIS MORNING

30 massacred

BOGOTA, (Reuters): More than 30 peasants taking part in an Easter Feast were massacred by a group of hooded gunmen who opened fire on the crowd last night, police said.

Pakistan 435

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, (Reuters): West Indies were 25 for one in their second innings at close of play on the third day of the first cricket Test yesterday after bowling out Pakistan for 435. (Earlier story Page 16)

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں

- پاک افغان سرحد پر حملے میں ۱۱ افراد ہلاک
- بھارت نے پاکستان سے ملحقہ سرحد بند کر دی
- افغانستان میں پارلیمانی انتخابات کا انعقاد
- بمبئی میں خوفناک آتشزدگی سے زبردست جانی و مالی نقصان
- پاکستان کے ایٹمی پروگرام پر سلسلہ مضامین کی آخری قسط پوسٹ

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with light to moderate southeasterly wind and some clouds will appear.
State of sea: slight to moderate
High water: 2.00 am, 1.00 pm
Low water: 8.00 am, 9.00 pm
Sunrise: 5.33 am
Sunset: 6.09 pm
Maximum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 30°C 86°F
Ahmed: 25°C 77°F
Faisal: 25°C 77°F
Minimum temperature expected:
Kuwait: 31°C 88°F
Ahmed: 27°C 81°F
Faisal: 26°C 79°F
Minimum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 18°C 64°F
Ahmed: 21°C 70°F
Faisal: 20°C 68°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 31 per cent
Ahmed: 52 per cent
Faisal: 54 per cent

Trade in women flourishes

PEKING, April 4, (Reuters): A line of girls dressed only in their underwear is driven down a street in a town in central China, their names and prices marked on their backs.

They are quickly surrounded by a large crowd as traders called for buyers.

Escape

Chinese village women are increasingly being bought and sold in a very lucrative trade, an official newspaper reported.

The Wenzhai newspaper said on Sunday the trade had surged in recent years, with 323 women sold in Sichuan province in 1986, and 132 in one county in Hubei province

in 1986 and 1987.

One 19-year-old girl from Hunan in South China was sold as a "common wife" to four brothers between 30 and 40 years old in Shandong province. Another had her Achilles tendon cut by the man who bought her so she could not escape, it said.

The business flourished because many farmers could not find wives, many country girls were extremely glib to offers of work and the trade was well organised, with several layers of middlemen.

Nearly all the girls were poorly educated, came from remote, backward areas and were deceived into believing they were leaving home to work or study.

Afghan forces clash with Pakistanis killing 16

ISLAMABAD, April 4, (Kuna): Sixteen people were killed and 12 injured in a clash between the border forces of Afghanistan and Pakistan near the Pakistani frontier town of Chaman in Baluchistan province, according to reports published today.

Both the sides had similar casualties — eight killed and six injured.

The clash occurred due to the defection to Pakistan of a captain of the Afghan Army — Asmatullah.

Half an hour after he took refuge at a Pakistani border post near Chaman, a unit of the Afghan militia crossed into Pakistani territory in a bid to take back the captain, and clashed with Pakistani forces.

According to one newspaper, Asmatullah was successfully retrieved by the attacking Afghan militia while another newspaper said that he was handed back by the Pakistani side after prolonged negotiations.

Trainer aircraft

ATHENS, (UPI): Tehran Radio said a trainer aircraft built completely by Iran made its first flight over the Iranian capital yesterday.

The aircraft was built by the Islamic Republic of Iran and was the first of its kind to be built in Iran.

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Impasse in Geneva talks

Soviets prepare to quit Kabul

WASHINGTON, April 4, (AP): The Soviets have begun preparations to remove the first of their 115,000 soldiers from Afghanistan despite an impasse in UN-sponsored negotiations in Geneva, according to US government sources.

"The intelligence community is unanimous in reporting that preparations for a withdrawal have commenced," said one analyst.

In the past, the Soviets have removed some peripheral units, such as anti-aircraft batteries, but replaced them with others. The current preparations are different, said the source, but they declined to give specifics.

And they said they could only speculate about the exact time, duration and manner of a Soviet withdrawal.

In a parallel development, Afghan rebel leaders in Pakistan said over the weekend that the United States has stopped supplying them with Stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

Mohamad Nabi Mohamadi, leader of the Harekat Islami, one of the seven guerrilla groups fighting communist forces in Afghanistan said the development comes in apparent US anticipation of a settlement in the war.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has said his nation's Army will withdraw from Afghanistan even if Afghan and Pakistani negotiators fail to reach agreement at UN talks in Geneva.

The talks are stalled over a demand introduced by the United States last December that the Soviets stop aiding the Kabul government at the same time that Washington stops its covert aid programme to the mujahedeen.

Role

Meanwhile, United Nations mediator for the Afghan issue Diego Cordovez said today the Afghanistan question should be settled neither in Washington nor Moscow but in Geneva.

Cordovez stressed the role of the United Nations on the Afghan issue in an interview with Xinhua news agency at the palace of nations.

The UN mediator rejected the allegation that one must wait for a meeting between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard

Shevardnadze and US Secretary of State George Shultz scheduled at the end of April in Moscow to seek a solution to the Afghan conflict.

Those who spread this information were trying to "minimise the role of the United Nations in solving the Afghanistan question," Cordovez said.

Polls

President Najibullah's Soviet-backed government, which rebels say, controls only 20 per cent of Afghanistan, on Tuesday holds elections branded a gimmick by the guerrillas and their Western backers.

Only 10 per cent of Afghans are expected to turn out for the country's third ever parliamentary polls from April 5 to 14, Afghan sources in neighbouring Pakistan said.

Najibullah called the election for a two-chamber National Assembly as the superpowers remained divided at UN-mediated peace talks in Geneva to end the nine-year-old Afghan war.

The Muslim guerrillas denounced the election as a trick to

deceive the Afghan people and world opinion.

The seven-party guerrilla alliance claims to control more than 80 per cent of Afghanistan and say Najibullah does not have the right to call an election.

Fight

The rebels vowed on Saturday to continue to fight to drive out the Russians if the Geneva pact was signed. They want an Islamic government in Kabul.

More than five million Afghans — nearly one in three — have fled Pakistan and Iran since Soviet troops moved in to prop up a faction-ridden communist administration in December 1979.

Western diplomats in Pakistan view the election as cosmetic. "The (Kabul) regime seem anxious to move quickly in an attempt to establish its credentials as a 'democratic' state with a functioning parliamentary system," one diplomat said.

"The election will change nothing but it will be used by Najibullah to consolidate and justify his position after the (Soviet) withdrawal," another diplomat said.

Doctors strike in Bangladesh

DHAKA, April 4, (Reuters): Bangladesh's 8,000 government doctors started a 72-hour strike today and Health Ministry officials said many patients were being forced to seek private treatment.

The strike was the seventh in 12 months staged to back newly-qualified doctors seeking more jobs, promotion and higher pay. The Bangladesh Medical Association said the doctors were forced into their latest walk-out because the government had broken a promise to meet their demands.

The Health Ministry officials said the strike had virtually paralysed medical services across the country and many patients with acute ailments had left government hospitals for private clinics.

"The strike is becoming a fashion. They don't realise that they make innocent patients, their victims," one official told reporters.

Filipino Army raid Enrile home for Honasan

Four more plotters escape

MANILA, April 4, (AP): The military today said four more soldiers jailed in plots against President Corason Aquino were missing following last weekend's escape of the fugitive leader of the August coup attempt.

Chief military spokesman Col. Oscar Florendo also denied troops had raided a vacation home of opposition Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile in connection with the nationwide search for former Lt. Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan.

Honasan, 39, leader of the Aug 28 coup attempt, and 14 of his Navy guards fled a prison ship in Manila Bay before dawn on Saturday aboard two rubber dinghies. He had been confined there since his arrest on Dec 9 for the attempted coup that left at least 53 people dead and hundreds wounded.

Florendo said three officers and one enlisted man jailed in

connection with the August attempt and another failed coup in Jan 1987 were missing from the detention centre at Villamor air base. Florendo claimed, however, the four apparently fled because of "family problems," and their escape was not related to Honasan's breakout.

Raid

Military officials earlier said troops on Sunday raided Enrile's vacation house in Batangas province, southwest of Manila, as part of a search for Honasan. But Florendo denied Enrile's house had been raided.

Enrile told a radio station today he had heard of the raid and charged the government was acting illegally by entering private homes without search warrants.

Honasan was chief of security

at the Ministry of National Defence when Enrile was defence chief. Enrile was fired in November 1986 after an alleged coup attempt by his followers in the military.

Florendo said several suspected Honasan hideouts had been raided throughout the country but "either we were too late or perhaps the information was not so accurate."

Armed troops manned checkpoints around Manila today and searched private vehicles. Travellers also reported checkpoints in rural Luzon Island north of the capital.

The Philippine Constabulary also strengthened security in southern provinces to prevent Honasan from slipping out of the country by boat to Malaysia.

Officials expressed doubt that Honasan could launch a new coup attempt.



US Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci (right) shakes hands with his Indian counterpart K.C. Pant before the start of talks. (Reuters wirephoto)

Azhar bans sex-change student

CAIRO, April 4, (UPI): A 25-year-old medical student was barred from his final examinations at Al Azhar University after he underwent a sex change and became a girl, the local press reported today.

The dilemma of Sayed Mohammed Abdullah, who now calls herself Sally Mohammed Abdullah, began several months ago when she began displaying feminine symptoms.

"It was barred by the management of the men's medical college because of my feminine appearance," she said in published interviews. "At the same time, I was prevented from enrolling at the women's college because I was not a girl."

Sally said she was treated with male hormones "that merely accentuated my masculine features. But the feeling of womanhood was growing inside me," she said. Finally, she underwent surgery "that took me out of the men's world and into the world of women, to which I belong and which I love."

Carlucci holds arms talks in New Delhi

NEW DELHI, April 4, (UPI): US Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci arrived today for a two-day visit that will include talks on a Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, nuclear arms in South Asia and India's wish to purchase US military technology.

Carlucci arrived from Morocco aboard a US government plane at a heavily guarded VIP wing in New Delhi's Indira Gandhi Airport.

Defence Minister K. C. Pant greeted the American delegation and the two ministers drove into the capital for their first round of talks.

Later, Carlucci laid a wreath at a shrine for India's war-dead, and then had an afternoon session of discussions with Pant at the Defence Ministry.

Shift

Carlucci — the first American Defence Secretary to visit New Delhi since his predecessor Casper Weinberger visited 18 months ago — will inspect naval yards in the western city of Bombay on Tuesday before returning for talks with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

He travels to Islamabad, Wednesday.

The official said Carlucci's visit on the whole was prompted by the need to discuss the shift in "the geo-strategic equation" in the region following the projected withdrawal from Afghanistan of 115,000 Soviet troops and implications to Indo-US relations.

Indian officials are expected to request Washington sever arms supplies to Pakistan, nestled between Afghanistan and India, in the event of a Soviet withdrawal, but the US diplomat predicted no radical change in US commitments to Pakistan or India.

Pakistan, one of the largest recipients of US military aid, has received arms because of the threat posed by Soviet troops in neighbouring Afghanistan. New Delhi, which maintains good relations with the United States, claims much of the aid is directed toward India instead of Afghanistan.

"Pakistan is a country that we want to have good relations with, but India is a great power out here so we have to get along with them too," he said. "I think (Carlucci) wants to reassure India, our relationship that is built with them does not have to change."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Boatpeople rescued

PARIS, April 4, (Reuters): Forty Vietnamese boatpeople, including a pregnant woman and 11 children, were picked up from a vessel in the South China Sea today by a French helicopter-carrier, the navy said.

The boatpeople, some of whom were suffering from dehydration, set off from the southern Vietnamese port of Can Tho on March 26, the navy said.

Interim payment

NEW DELHI, April 4, (AP): An Indian court today ordered the Union Carbide Corp. to pay Rs 2.5 billion (\$192 million) in interim relief for victims of the 1984 Bhopal gas disaster.

The judgement by the High Court in the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh came on an appeal by the US-based multinational corporation.

Union Carbide had challenged a Dec 17 ruling by Bhopal district judge M.W. Deo that it pay Rs. 3.5 billion (\$269 million) in interim relief.

Second fire

BOMBAY, April 4, (AP): A second fire broke out in the slums on the northern edge of Bombay today just 12 hours after a major blaze burned down scores of huts and small factories in the area.

Fire officials said the second fire began about 8 am (0230 GMT) at Kurla in northeast Bombay.

The cause of both fires was being investigated. Fire officials said the area was full of illegal warehouses used to store chemicals, cotton and other highly flammable items.

Chinese rule

LONDON, April 4, (AP): The Dalai Lama, Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, said today that resentment of Chinese rule had sparked bloody protests in his homeland, but dismissed violence as "very bad."

The 52-year-old Dalai Lama, arriving in Britain on a 12-day private visit, said the disturbances that have rocked Tibet since September were "very sad."

Service marks King's death anniversary

MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP): Twenty years after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. unleashed riots in America's black ghettos, blacks and whites rededicated themselves today to his dream of a better life for the oppressed.

King, gunned down as he stood on the balcony of the Lorraine motel in Memphis, was remembered around the country in services and speeches that urged people to carry on his work.

A memorial service this morning at the Orpheum theatre, a downtown landmark, was the first sponsored by the city on the anniversary of the assassination. It was to be followed by a march to the Lorraine motel, where a ceremony was planned, and the start of a three-week provincial rights march through Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia.

Nine-year-old Brian Harris, waiting to go on stage with other schoolchildren at the Orpheum, said he was proud to take part in the service.

"We should celebrate because he left us his dream," the youngster said. "He gave black people a chance to be free."

Shultz happy after talks with Shamir

(Continued from Page 1)

on the Middle East. The conclusion reached by Perez de Cuellar by implication rejected efforts by Shultz.

In Amman, a senior official said that Jordan sees little hope of success for the latest Middle East peace mission by Shultz.

"We have not got anywhere with this American proposal and will not get anywhere," the official, who refused to be named, said.

Blame "But we don't want the Arabs to take the blame for its failure," he added.

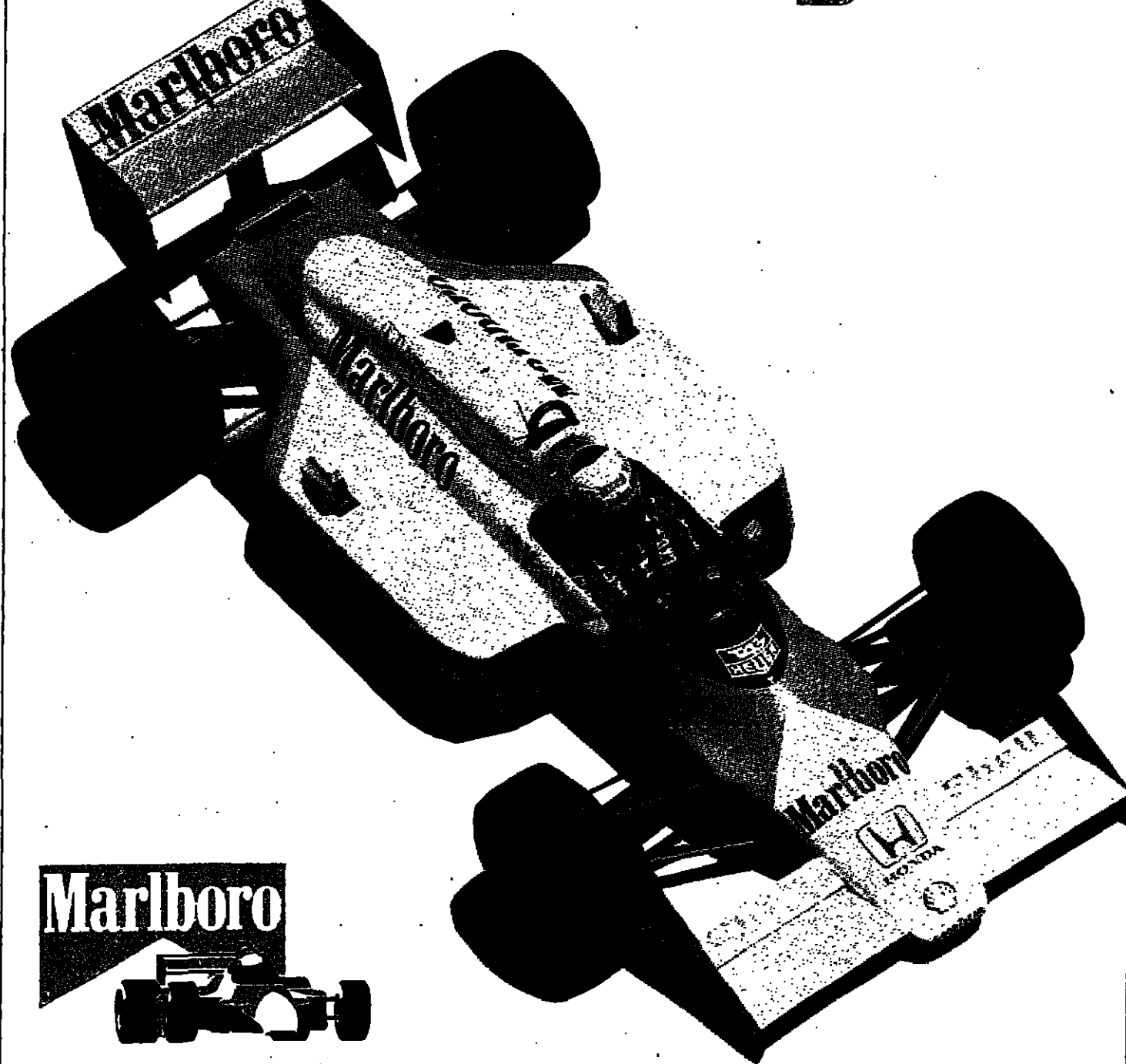
In Cairo, the Egyptian daily Al-Ahram said that Shultz is expected to present the Egyptian government a formula of the proposed call for convening an international Middle East peace conference during his visit next Wednesday.

The formula would determine the principles of the conference and the participating countries, the newspaper quoted a well-informed source as saying.

According to the formula, the source added, the United Nations may be asked to call for the convocation of the proposed international peace conference on April 15 and the procedures for the conference would start on May 1.

Another Grand Prix Win for Marlboro McLaren.

Prost Wins Again!



Marlboro

GOVERNMENT WARNING: SMOKING IS A MAIN CAUSE OF LUNG CANCER AND DISEASES OF THE LUNGS, HEART AND ARTERIES

Tough fight expected at Wisconsin

Dukakis has a lot at stake

MILWAUKEE, Wis., April 4, (Reuters): Michael Dukakis goes into Wisconsin's Democratic presidential primary on Tuesday a leader in the polls but with much more at stake than his chief rival, black civil rights leader Jesse Jackson.

Since Dukakis picked up eight Super Tuesday states on March 8, he has failed to deliver any knockout blows and has been staggered by losses in the major northern states of Michigan and Illinois.

Since Jackson beat him in Michigan on March 26 and he finished third 11 days later in Illinois — behind home-state favourite Senator Paul Simon and Jackson — Dukakis is still desperately searching for his first win in a big industrial state outside his native New England.

Analysts said the Massachusetts governor must show he

can win a big northern state to prove he can appeal to blue-collar workers, traditionally vital to a Democratic victory.

Jackson, with a more stirring campaign style that has drawn large white as well as black audiences, showed he could when he beat Dukakis in Michigan's caucuses by a two-to-one margin.

Riding the Michigan momentum, Jackson has virtually bracketed Dukakis and is challenging him as the frontrunner for the Democratic presidential nomination.

With his Michigan and Illinois losses, one analyst said, "The Dukakis bandwagon now has two flat tyres, and can't really afford another."

Dukakis continued campaigning hard here through the Easter weekend for Wisconsin's 81 national nominating delegates.

He appeared at three Easter Sunday services in Milwaukee, milked a cow in Cadott and talked with old folk in Madison.

Jackson, meanwhile, broke off campaigning here and gambled with a foray west to Colorado, which was holding caucuses today to select 45 presidential nominating delegates.

A poll published on Sunday by the Milwaukee Journal, this industrial and dairy state's largest newspaper, showed Dukakis leading the black civil rights leader 43 to 35 per cent.

Senator Albert Gore, who has done poorly outside his native south since a string of victories in the 20-state, southern-dominated "Super Tuesday" races, had 15 per cent.

Simon commands only five per cent support in the poll even though he comes from neighbouring Illinois.

Ershad may hold referendum on Islam

DHAKA, April 4, (Reuters): Bangladeshi President Hussain Muhammad Ershad said today a referendum may be held to decide if Islam should become the state religion.

But Ershad, leader of the world's third most populous Muslim country, said he would consider a referendum only after parliament had approved a law changing the constitution.

"I am confident the new parliament will approve a bill making Islam our state religion," Ershad told a religious gathering in the southwestern town of Atroshi.

"Soon after it is passed, I may order a referendum to get a clearer verdict of the people on the issue."

Ershad is unlikely to have any trouble getting the bill through when the new Bangladesh

parliament, dominated by his Jatiya Party, meets later this month for the first time after March 3 elections.

Government sources said a bill had been drawn up but they refused to disclose details.

Steps

Ershad has already taken steps towards an Islamic society, making Islamic studies compulsory in schools and ordering all restaurants closed in the daytime during the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan.

He has also introduced state salaries for Islamic clergymen and ended electricity and water charges for the country's 200,000 mosques.

Ershad has said in the past that the country's Hindu, Christian and Buddhist minorities would be allowed absolute religious and social freedom.

China denies arms deal with Israel

BEIJING, April 4, (AP): China on Monday denied reports it had reached a secret arms deal with Israel to buy advanced missile warheads and other new weaponry.

"Such news is utterly groundless," a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said in the one-sentence statement. She declined to elaborate.

Reports in the Sunday Times of London and Hong Kong's Sunday Morning Post said a team of five Israeli military scientists went to Beijing in November and negotiated a deal to sell China missile warheads and armour-piercing shells developed by Israel.

The Sunday Times said there were indications Israel was using technology from its cancelled Lavi fighter plane to help China develop its own multipurpose combat fighter.

Probe

Israel Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Sunday denied the newspaper reports, calling them "simply nonsense."

The reports, based on what the newspapers described as a joint investigation, said the Israelis travelled to China on false Philippine passports and negotiated the deal with approval from top Israeli leaders.

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محتاج اير كنديشن

To devise a course on treatment

Doctors complete study on kidney stones

By Jadranka Porter

DR Mustafa Abu Lisan regularly appeals to patients who spontaneously pass kidney stones to submit those for analysis which is essential in determining how to prevent the recurrence of the condition. But he is quick to add: "No garden stones, please."

The remark is in reference to a Kuwaiti with a kidney condition who answered Abu Lisan's appeal but who was also anxious to test the ability of the medical staff at the Amiri hospital.

He picked up a small stone in his garden and took it to the hospital for analysis pretending that it was a stone he passed. Looking at the results of the test Abu Lisan, the director of Clinical Laboratories in the Amiri health region, was baffled for a minute.

Purpose

"There we had a stone that a human body could not possibly produce," says Abu Lisan.

He then sent one of his staff to pick up a stone from the street outside the hospital. They had it analysed and the mystery was solved. "The patient's confidence in doctors was restored but we are too busy to deal with cases like this," says Abu Lisan.

He was on the team, together

with Hafeez Mughal and Mona Shublaq, which recently completed a study on renal stones in Kuwait using infrared spectroscopy, a technique known for accuracy and in Kuwait available only at the Amiri hospital. The researchers analysed close to 480 stones from some 450 patients, a comprehensive study based on a large enough sample to make it truly representative of Kuwait's population.

The purpose of the study was to provide information which would help devise a course of treatment including a special diet, to prevent a further recurrence of kidney stones in the same patient. The treatment varies from patient to patient, said Abu Lisan.

The survey revealed that a great majority of kidney stones contained calcium oxalate as a major component. The second largest group was uric acid stones and the third was the phosphate stones.

Diet

Patients with calcium oxalate stones are advised to restrict the intake of calcium rich food such as dairy products, spinach and chocolate. They should drink mineral water which contains magnesium, lemonade and all

kinds of tea. Patients with uric acid stones should consume dairy products, potatoes, fruits, vegetables and cereals but they should restrict fat intake. Their diet should be rich in bases — alkaline substances which react with acids to form salts.

Abu Lisan pointed out that uric acid stones, commonly found in people who are overweight, can be dissolved by conservative treatment i.e. oral medication.

Patients with calcium phosphate stones, a condition linked to the urinary tract infection, require a diet of so called acidifying food including meat, fish, eggs, lemonade and tea.

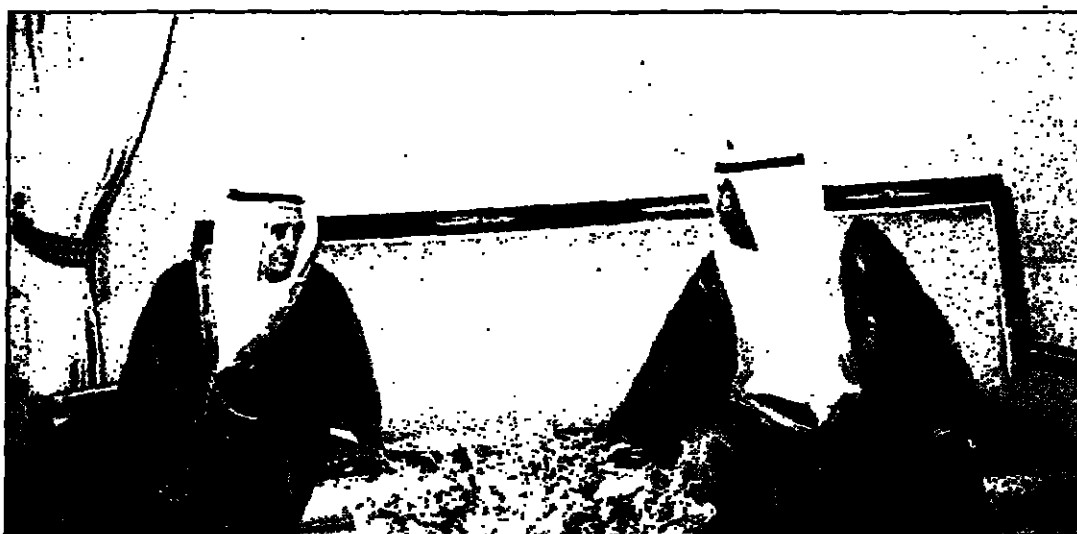
High

The researchers, who believe that Kuwait has a comparatively high incidence of kidney stone patients, have sent the abstracts of their study to the American Association for Clinical Chemistry and hope to present the research paper at the association's 40th meeting to be held in June in New Orleans, USA.

"We want to let the World Health Organisation and international media know about the prevalence of renal stones in Kuwait. We hope that our data will be of use to urologists throughout the Gulf," said Abu Lisan.



HH the Amir with members of the Argentine delegation.



HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, with the Justice and Islamic Affairs Minister of Bahrain (left).

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audiences

HH the Amir yesterday received the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashid who presented to the Amir Dr Nasser Jasim Abdullah Al Sana', the newly-appointed Assistant Undersecretary of the Civil Service Diwan.

Later the Amir received visiting Argentine Governor of Cordoba province Dr Eduard Angelos and his delegation who conveyed a message from the President of Argentina to the Amir.

The audience was attended by Foreign Undersecretary Sulaiman Majed Al Shaheen and the Argentine Ambassador to Kuwait.

The Amir also received the new Kuwaiti Ambassador to Iraq Ibrahim Jassim Al Bahow who took permission to leave for his new posting.

Amiri cables

HH the Amir yesterday sent cables of congratulations to the Senegalese and Hungarian Presidents on the occasion of their countries' National Days.

Crown Prince audiences

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah yesterday received Iraqi Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister, Abdulla Fadhil on the occasion of his visit to the country.

The meeting was attended by Kuwaiti Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Khalid Ahmed Al Jassar.

Sheikh Saad also received Bahraini Justice and Islamic Affairs Minister, Sheikh Abdulla Bin Khalid Al Khalifa on the occasion of his visit to the country.

Sheikh Saad received State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashid who presented to Sheikh Saad the newly-appointed assistant undersecretary of the Civil Service Diwan Dr Nasser Jasim Al Sana'.

Sheikh Saad also received the Ambassador of Kuwait to Iraq Ibrahim Al Bahow, the Secretary General of the Supreme Council for Planning, Fuad Mulla Hussein, the editor-in-chief of Seyassah Ahmed Al Jarallah and Sheikh Nasser Souh Al Ahmed.

Sheikh Saad also received an Argentine delegation headed by the Governor of Cordoba province Dr Eduard Angelos, and included Minister of Foreign Trade Jose Jiani.

The audience was attended by Foreign Undersecretary Sulaiman Majed Al Shaheen and the Argentine Ambassador to Kuwait.

Crown Prince cable

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah yesterday sent a cable of congratulations to the Prime Minister of Hungary Karoly Grosz on the occasion of his country's National Day.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Arab unity required

AKUWAITI daily yesterday hailed the convocation of the Arab justice ministers meetings, saying that Kuwait's hosting of the conference is an indication of its striving to back collective action.

Al Rai Al Aam said in an editorial published yesterday that challenges which confront the Arab nation require that Arabs abandon their differences and unify their ranks.

It noted that Arab and Islamic history has proven that individualism in action never solved any problem and that is why Kuwait took the initiative to call for cooperation and unity to champion legitimate Arab and Islamic causes and eliminate conflicts.

Shultz' shuttle will fail

ANOTHER local daily said that US Secretary of State George Shultz' current shuttle in the region will fail.

Al Watan opined that while former American envoys like Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and presidential envoy Philip Habib managed to achieve for the US policy at the time, Shultz will not.

It pointed out in an editorial that the previous secretaries of state talked with Arab politicians, who used to give concessions while Shultz is facing a unique situation, since the only party which can help reach a settlement in the Mideast is the (PLO) which is not included in Shultz' schedule.

"Today the situation is different," the paper added, as the Arab side this time is the whole nation and not an Arab politician. The only nation has now agreed on one goal: "an independent Palestinian state under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation."

The daily reaffirmed that as long as the US refused to contact the PLO, the uprising will continue, regardless of the numbers of the victims or the number of Shultz' visits.

Call for Arab summit

A KUWAITI weekly magazine yesterday called for the holding of an Arab summit conference in support of the continuation of the Palestinian popular uprising in the occupied territories until all the Palestinian land is restored to its legitimate people.

Al Mujtama Islamic magazine said the Arab leaders should have faith in Jihad (holy war) as a means of restoring the holy land and rights.

It called for mobilising capabilities within the framework of an all-out plan that includes a unified military command for all Arab countries.

The Arab summit conference, according to the magazine, has to "integrate with the uprising and to shoulder its responsibility in confronting the Zionist challenges."

Symposium on manpower held

THE development of national manpower was part and parcel of the overall national development process, the Undersecretary of the Planning Ministry, Dr Abdul Hadi Al Awadi, said recently.

He was speaking at a symposium on "Planning Manpower in Kuwait" held by the College of Commercial Studies.

He said that the planning process took into consideration the fulfilment of national needs and requirements and that all plans would have to be approved by higher authorities in the government before they could be implemented.

Another speaker, the assistant dean at the college, Dr Jassem Al Omar, said that all countries

sought overall development through optimum exploitation of production elements, and the basic element was the human one.

He said that planning simply meant a scientific study of the past, evaluation of the present and anticipation of the future. He added that the whole process should be based on wise decisions, well conceived plans and clear-cut goals in order to ensure success.

He stressed the need to base the planning process on science and a study of national needs, and to utilise the output of applied education centres in the planning process in order to cater for all present and future needs.

Radiation contamination increases

YOUSEF Al Mailem, the director of the Food and Shop Licensing Department at Kuwait Municipality, said laboratory tests conducted recently by the Municipality in cooperation with the Public Health Ministry showed an increase in radiation contamination among foodstuffs such as meat, cheese and chocolates.

He added that the Municipality had adopted strict measures to ensure that contaminated foodstuffs were not allowed to enter the country. All foods imported from countries known to have radiation pollution are subjected to intensive testing before being allowed into the country.

Al Mailem said that samples of stored foodstuffs were also regularly checked to ensure that they were within the valid period for consumption.

He added that the department was currently involved in preparations for Ramadan and the large number of foodstuffs imported during this month.

Hussein receives Mideast Institute officials

ADVISER at the Amiri Diwan Abdul Aziz Hussein yesterday received two former United States Ambassadors to the Middle East, region Lucius Patte and Chirifan Hollen.

Patte and Hollen are the trustees of Middle East Institute in the United States which is engaged in studies of Middle East affairs.

During the meeting Hussein discussed with the American dignitaries the activities of the institute and plans to get the American people acquainted with issue of the Middle East region.

Parcels to Malawi

KUWAIT'S Post Office Department has announced that post offices will not accept parcels containing used clothes addressed to Malawi until further notice.

World Health Day

DR Ahmed Al Ayaf, the chairman of Kuwait's national committee for World Health Day, said the focus would be on encouraging people to give up smoking on this day, which is scheduled for April 7.

Speaking at a press conference organised by the information committee, Dr Al Ayaf said the theme for the World Health Day

would be "Health for all and for health." It will also coincide with the anniversary of the founding of the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Kuwait's celebrations of the World Health Day will be patronised by HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister with the participation of a number of ministries and institutions.

Health areas have planned activities for World Health Day from April 9 to 13 and the Community Development Centre will host festivities to be patronised by the Minister of Public Health Dr Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razak.

Shuwaikh reorganisation plan

AN official source at Kuwait Municipality has revealed that there are four proposals in hand for the reorganisation of the Shuwaikh area.

The first proposal calls for a gradual upgrading of the area and includes the removal of the Immigration Department from sector 9 to sector 1 and the transfer of the slaughterhouse from sector 21 to sector 1.

The second proposal aims at

re-arranging current facilities, providing more car parks and allocating specific areas for warehouses and the parking of trucks or lorries.

The third proposal calls for the setting up of a comprehensive plan to re-develop the area as an industrial zone but with an overall layout in accordance with its long term needs, regardless of

all expenses.

The fourth proposal aims at preserving the industrial character of the area but also calls for the allocation of certain areas for housing projects.

The source said that although the Municipality Affairs Committee had recommended the third option it was unlikely to be implemented.

Rqobah visits injured soldiers

ELECTRICITY and Water Minister Homoud Al Rqobah yesterday called on the two soldiers injured in the attack on Bubiyan Island at Al Razy Hospital.

Rqobah, who is also acting Public Health Minister, was

accompanying by Health Assistant Undersecretary Dr Tareq Al Abdel Gader and the hospital's senior officials.

The minister thanked the two soldiers for their defence of Kuwait and wished them a speedy recovery.



● Etienne Angrier has introduced a new product line called Free Life for men who enjoy life and are ready to keep their energetic pace throughout the day. The products include shampoo, shaving foam, after-shave lotion, bath soap, shower and bath gel, deodorant and body spray. Picture shows the product line.

OBITUARY



Tertuliano D'Souza
(ex-Southern Al Mulla)

Born: 27.4.1909
Died: 2.4.1988

From sorrowful wife Nestor, daughters Cynthia, Celly, Corries, Christine, son-in-law Casimiro, grandson Darío

Friends and relatives kindly take this as the only intimation.

Last respects on 7.4.1988 at Sabah Hospital from 8.00 am to 10.30 am. Body will be flown to Goa on 8.4.1988.



Lufthansa, in cooperation with the Tourist Office of the City of Munich, marks the first day of the Bavarian Week in the Arabian Gulf, starting in Kuwait on April the 2nd. We shall be highlighting some of the touristic attractions through a morning workshop for travel agents and an evening reception for officials and potential clients. Both events are under the patronage of H.E. Dr Bernd Wulffen, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Kuwait.

For the second consecutive year, the Hansatours brochure gives the passenger a quick reference to the most reasonable car rental, hotel booking, and sightseeing tours, covering Germany and Europe alike.

You will find Munich on page 6 of the Hansatours brochure. It features the different ways to enjoy the city with the "Golden Heart" and how to go places in Bavaria and the Alps. Of course, it includes shopping tips, touristic information, package deals and sightseeing tours besides hotel information.

In addition, medical facilities and specialised clinics in Munich and southern Germany are featured in the Lufthansa Medical Treatment brochure. Munich itself, with its university and various clinics, is considered a leading medical centre world-wide.

Lufthansa links Kuwait with the city of Munich every Monday, Wednesday and Friday with its services via Frankfurt. The 09.20 & 09.45 am departures from Kuwait are very convenient for same day connections, not just to Munich, but anywhere in Europe.



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Dept of Electrical Engineering
The Catholic Univ. of America
USA

Date : Wednesday, April 6, 1988

Time : 6:30 pm

Place : University Club, Shuwaikh

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Traffic accidents a 'painful tax'

By Lima Al Khalafawi

TRAFFIC accidents are a kind of "painful tax" we have to pay daily in spite of the improvements in our roads and the modern vehicles we use on them. Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah said yesterday.

He was speaking at a seminar on traffic problems in Kuwait.

Sheikh Salem said the ministry had prepared plans to reduce the number of accidents.

The plans include training traffic police to handle major violations of the highway code in order to save lives. He stressed the need for cooperation between traffic police and public.

Efforts

The Interior Ministry Undersecretary, Major-General Bader Al Khorafi, said the government had made great efforts to improve road conditions and had passed many traffic laws, but traffic accidents continued to rise every year due to breaking of traffic laws by drivers.

He said the government was trying to raise driving standards in Kuwait to match those in developed countries, but the responsibility lay solely with the drivers.

Rise

Maj.-Gen Al Khorafi said that annual statistics showed a tremendous rise in the number of traffic accidents and violations.

The head of the Traffic Department, Brigadier Fouad Musaad Al Saleh, told the seminar that there were about 565,000 vehicles on the roads by the end of 1987, an increase of 3.3 per cent over the previous year.

He said the number of driving licences had risen to 672,000, an increase of 36 per cent.

Brig. Al Saleh said his depart-



Sheikh Salem Al Sabah



Major-General Bader Al Khorafi

ment had registered 232,052 traffic violations in 1987, an increase of 21 per cent. However, the number of accidents had fallen by seven per cent from the previous year.

There were 2,538 persons injured during 1987, a decrease of six per cent. There were 273 fatalities in 1987, a drop of 12.5 per cent from 1986.

Four new water projects

ACCORDING to the annual report of the Statistics Control at the Ministry of Electricity and Water four new water projects will be executed within the framework of the ministry's plan for the next three years.

The report said that one project would use a new water source in Om Al Kadeer and another brackish water well to the north easterly direction of Om Al Kadeer.

The report also said that the projects would seek to develop the Sulaibiya brackish water well, in a plan aimed at developing all brackish water wells in the country to cater to the demand of

urban expansion, industrial requirements and agricultural and landscaping needs.

The report pointed out that the estimated production capacity of this project when completed would be in the vicinity of 40 million gallons per day.

The report also said that the project in Om Al Kadeer was aimed at producing 15 million gallons of brackish water daily upon completion.

French envoy

DEFENCE Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed yesterday received the French Ambassador to Kuwait.



A FAO expert examining the goat.



Taking milk samples from the goat.

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Graduation ceremony

A CEREMONY was held for 224 children who completed computer training courses at the Bubiyan Club recently.

The training courses, organised by Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, was one of a series from which 1,267 children have graduated.

The Managing Director for Marketing at KPC, Sheikh Ali Jaber Al Ali Al Sabah, speaking at the ceremony, said the computer courses was one way of showing their concern for the Kuwaiti community.

Standardisation training course

THE third standardisation training course of the Gulf Cooperation Council went under way yesterday.

The 8-day course, organised by the GCC Standardisation Authority in cooperation with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the association of Arab Gulf Chambers of Commerce, is attended by participants from the six GCC states.

Minister of Commerce and Industry Faisal Abdul-Razzak Al Khaled opened the course emphasising the importance of standardisation in increasing productivity and increasing quality of the products and decreasing cost of production.

He said that acting in the spirit of the GCC unified economic agreement, the Standardisation Authority was founded in June 1985 to coordinate the joint GCC industrial activity and laying down the rules for sound industrial development and unifying the legislations in that connection.

As for Kuwait, the minister said, standardisation began almost in the early days of independence but reached perfection in 1977 when the standardisation law was officially adopted.

Saudi military delegation

DEFENCE assistant Undersecretary for Military Installations Sabah Al Nasser yesterday received the visiting Saudi military delegation that is on an official visit to the country.

The Saudi military delegation, led by colonel Abdul Aziz Turki Al Ataihan, reviewed with Nasser joint cooperation and means of exchanging expertise.

The delegates toured the 15th army brigade and the naval base.

Hermaphrodite goat gives good milk

THE Animal Resources Department has carried out tests on the hermaphrodite goat owned by a family in Ardiya. The tests revealed that the goat's milk was very high in protein and therefore nutritionally very rich. Blood tests showed that the goat had a low count of male hormones.

However, the goat was not 100 per cent female and its bisexuality was caused by a genetic fault.

Al Sana receives Pakistani team

KUWAIT Chief of Staff, Major General Mazyed Abdul Al Rahman Al Sana, yesterday received a delegation from the National Pakistani Defence Academy.

The delegation, who arrived here last night on an official five-day visit to Kuwait, is led by General Mohammad Safdar.

During the visit, the delegation will meet with a number of defence ministry officials and tour some of the Army units. They reviewed bilateral relations and means of boosting them in fields of military training and expertise.



A student is presented with a certificate after completing the computer training course.



Students await the presentation of certificates at the Bubiyan Club.

Justice ministers endorse council's works programme

KUWAIT, April 4, (Kuna): During their 4th closed door meeting earlier yesterday, Arab ministers of justice endorsed a number of resolutions concerning works of the council's general secretariat as well as budgetary affairs.

The official spokesman of the sixth session of the Arab Justice Ministerial Council Abdel Aziz Al Saraj of Morocco, said Al Duraib of Saudi Arabia, Mohammed Al Hani of Tunisia, Dr Wajeeh Khater of Lebanon and Dr Rashedi Rasheed of Iraq.

He added that the Arab ministers endorsed the secretary general Mohammed Mico to hold contacts to set venue and date of the council's seventh session.

The spokesman said Amman's Arab agreement for commercial arbitration will be signed during the final session.

A committee comprising Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Palestine has been formed to draft the council's final

statement, the spokesman said.

He concluded that the council will send two cables of thanks and appreciation to HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister for inviting the council to hold its sixth session in Kuwait.

Meanwhile, following the fourth session today, Kuwait Justice Minister and chairman of the sixth session of the Arab Justice Ministerial Council, Dhari Al Othman, in a statement to Kuna, hailed the cooperation and understanding between the participating delegations during the deliberations.

He noted that all issues listed on the justice ministers' agenda were discussed and affirmed that the three-day deliberations were enough to cover all topics of the agenda.

Asked by Kuna if the justice ministers have tackled political issues concerning the Middle East, Al Othman said that the conferees have only discussed judicial matters.

Students union puts off strike

THE chairman of the Kuwait Students Union (University branch), Mohammed Al Dallal, has said that the union had decided to suspend the three day strike scheduled to start yesterday.

He said that the acting Education Minister and State Minister for Housing Affairs, Nasser Al Roudhan, met representatives of the union to discuss some mutual issues, especially the strike.

The union suspended the strike at the request of the minister who asked for more time to deal with the crisis and the academic charter.

Al Dallal said the union asked

the minister to intervene to protect the rights of the affected students, to amend the charter, and to stop the decision to dismiss students who got three warnings although they had been admitted to the university only in 1986.

Probation list

He said the union also asked the minister to arrange for a meeting with HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, and with the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, to discuss the new academic charter.

Meanwhile, the union issued a statement criticising the way in which the deans committee treated the problem of students on the probation list, adding that the problems were due to the severe conditions of the charter.

The university administration admitted that the charter was no longer valid, and this meant there was no sense in dismissing students from the university because of the charter.

The statement said that 77 per cent of the 931 Kuwaiti students admitted in 1986-87 had received warnings and threatened with dismissal. It added that 50 per cent of female Kuwaiti students were in the same situation.

Agricultural firm facing difficulties

THE Agricultural and Food Products Company was facing a difficult situation because it was hard to satisfy consumers and support production at the same time, the chairman, Jassem Al Amir, said.

He said the company exported tomatoes and cucumbers to Qatar and the UAE. It tried to export products to European countries but faced problems because of the price difference and the distance.

Al Amir said the company tried to achieve a balance between production and marketing operations, including commercial activities outside the country.

Objectives

He said the company was established during the 1970s at the crest of Kuwait's economic wave. It has passed through several financial, commercial and administrative difficulties and changes since its establishment.

He said the company had several objectives, such as agricultural production and development. It had several farms in various areas of Kuwait, as well as a fleet of trucks.

He said the Wafra model

project was considered one of the company's biggest projects, and the company had other plans for expansion.

He said the company had 36 branches which were outlets for marketing the company's products.

The company provided consumers with food and agricultural products at low prices, he said.

IWC elects officials

ISLAMABAD, April 4, (Kuna): Dr Marouf Al Dwalibi, adviser to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, was re-elected the president of Islamic World Conference at the 9th General Assembly held in Karachi today.

Dr Inamullah Khan of Pakistan was re-elected general secretary of the conference.

The assembly during its last session in Karachi yesterday, also elected four vice-presidents from different countries.

They were: Sheikh Yusuf Hashim Al Rifai (Kuwait); M. Natsir (Indonesia); Abu Bakr Mianja (Uganda); M. Hanifa Mohammad (Sri Lanka).

China on the verge of ties with Saudis

LONDON, April 4, (Kuna): China was "on the verge" of establishing diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia, a respected newspaper predicted here today.

The Guardian newspaper pointed out that the arrival in Riyadh at the weekend of a Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister, Qi Huaiyuan, followed an expansion of commercial and cultural links between the two countries.

China has also sold intermediate-range missiles to the kingdom.

Qi is the first senior Chinese leader to pay an official visit to Saudi Arabia, the daily recalled.

It believed that many Arab states would favour an increasing role in the Middle East for

China as a counter to super power influence.

The Guardian maintained that a "formal opening between China and Saudi Arabia would be likely to draw in other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council."

Diplomats in Peking suggested that Qi's visit indicated that China "was in a hurry to formalise relations with Riyadh before the Soviet Union," it continued.

Furthermore, the paper remarked that relations between China and Saudi Arabia have been developing rapidly in recent years and a return visit to China by a member of the Saudi Royal family was expected later this year.

Iran, Iraq resume deadly missile duel

(Continued from Page 1)

"war of the cities," observed during Ozal's three-day official visit to Baghdad.

Perez de Cuellar on Thursday welcomed the initial announcement that Iraq would unilaterally halt attacks on Iranian cities during the Ozal visit.

His spokesman, Francois Giuliani, said yesterday Perez de Cuellar had asked both sides to continue the truce.

"In addition to the imperative need to save human lives, such a measure would help to create the constructive atmosphere that is needed for progress in the forthcoming talks he is having with Iran and Iraq on the implementation of Security Council resolution 598," Giuliani said.

Visit

An Iranian military spokesman listed an overall casualty toll in just over a month of Iraqi air and missile attacks on Iranian cities — 1,145 dead and 4,000 wounded. Iraq has said hundreds of its civilians have been killed in similar raids.

The latest attacks, which were among 140 warplane combat missions reported by the Iraqi News Agency during the day, ended a 2-1/2 days ceasefire

observed by Iraq during a visit to Baghdad by Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal.

Turkish sources said Ozal, who arrived in Ankara later yesterday, proposed that Iran and Iraq call a ceasefire in the "war of the cities," which began Feb 29. But neither Turkish nor Iraqi officials would comment publicly on this.

Iraq said its warplanes raided two Iranian refineries yesterday, but Iran said the bombs hit residential areas.

Initiative

Meanwhile, the Iraqi and Iranian foreign ministers are expected in Moscow within hours in what political observers say indicates the presence of a fresh Soviet initiative in the Gulf war.

Iraqi Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz is expected in Moscow in the coming few hours in what sources described as a "lightning" visit with the Soviet officials on the Iraq-Iran war.

The same sources said that Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati will arrive in Moscow in the coming 24 hours but it is not immediately known whether the two opponents will meet while in Moscow.

Mathematics Olympiad opened

THE Undersecretary of Kuwait's Education Ministry, Abdul Rahman Al Khudari, opened the Arabian Gulf Mathematics Olympiad on Sunday. He said in his opening remarks that this Olympiad was intended to help students reach educational goals and to focus on the outstanding abilities of the region's students.

The Director General of the Arab Gulf Educational Bureau, Dr Ali Al Tuwaijri, said in the inauguration ceremony "we are proud of the objectives of the contest". He added that no efforts would be spared to build a generation specialised in mathematics to play their role in the scientific growth and development.

Dr Al Tuwaijri said the contest aims at developing the talents of the participants in the area of mathematics.

Envoys present credentials

MUSCAT, April 4, (Kuna): The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Yousef Bin Alawi Bin Abdullah, received today copies of the credentials of Victor Bosovac as Soviet Ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Sultanate of Oman.

The Soviet Ambassador delivered a message to Abdullah from Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze dealing with boosting bilateral ties between the two countries, Oman News Agency reported.

The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs later received the copies of the credentials of the Syrian Ambassador to the Sultanate, Abdul Kareem Al Sabagh.

Planning council

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah next Wednesday chairs the 9th meeting of Supreme Council of Planning.

Yum Yum America Week raffle results

THE Kuwait Sheraton Hotel has announced the winners of the grand raffle held during the Yum Yum America Week at the Sheraton Hotel.

The lucky numbers and prizes are:

281 (lunch for two at Al Hamra Restaurant)
402 (dinner for two at Al Hamra restaurant)
490 (weekend for two with room only at Kuwait Sheraton)
317 (weekend for two with room and breakfast at Bahrain Sheraton)

471 (weekend for two with room only at Dubai Sheraton)
315 (weekend for two at Abu Dhabi Sheraton)
151 (weekend for two with room and breakfast at Oman Sheraton)

Holders of the winning numbers should bring their coupons to the public relations office of the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel.

Picture shows the draw for the winning numbers.





Ambika



Rajan



Asha Raghukumar

Upasana presents concerts

NORTH and south Indian music will be presented by a group of local singers and musicians at a two-day concert on Thursday and Friday.

The musical evenings, will be presented by Upasana, a local group formed by Indians in Kuwait, at the IAC auditorium in Funaitees.

Ten vocalists and a 12-member orchestra will take part in the concert. The first night is reserved on south Indian film songs, mainly from Malayalam, Telugu and other regional languages in a programme entitled Ganamanjari which starts at 7.30 pm on Thursday night.

The second night, Friday, features a selection of "mainly Hindi film" songs with a large selection of regional melodies, dubbed Geethanjali, it will start at 6pm.

All vocalists, such as Ambika Suryanarayana, Asha Raghukumar, Sapanasree, Sunita Raju, Rajan, Samuel, Shahul, Viswala, Vijayan and Murugan, are well-known among the Indian community. They last performed in February at a music night organised by Upasana. The leading vocalist is Ambika, who sings both classical, semi-classical and film songs.

The orchestra comprises Francis Stephen, Rajagopal (organ); Nanda Kumar, Kumaradas, Shivankar and Bhaskar (table) and Joshi, Narayan (violin). Joseph is the music-coordinator and flautist, another member of the group is Joseph Mathew.

The programme will be completed by Jagriti Bhattacharya. Upasana was formed by a group of 15 Indians, led by Madhu, to encourage and promote a musical culture among the community here.

"There are many theatrical companies, but not one was devoted to music," said Madhu. He, along with his friends, formed Upasana, dedicated to music.

Last February, they organised a music festival, attended by over 1,000 people. After the musical evenings, they hope to hold a music show for the under-16s.

The idea is to encourage under-16s to come on stage and present their type of music for the youngsters, said Madhu.



Francis Stephen

Danes hold Revue '88



FOOT-TAPPING music and lots of fun was provided for Danes at the annual Revue '88 held recently by the Danish community in Kuwait. About 80 Danes attended the Revue, held at a local club. Sixteen performers took part in the musical with black humour about the crew and passengers on a make-believe Daniella

flight. Everything that could go wrong goes wrong in the black comedy, written by a Dane living in Kuwait. The audience joined in with songs and music.

The annual family event was organised by Daniella, the Danish community group. There are about 120 Danes living in Kuwait.

The next social for the Danes would be a family rally on April 15. For registration Danes can contact Connie on Tel: 3947696 before April 10.

Above: scenes from Revue '88 featuring Ib Norin, Per Olsen, Lene Knudsen, Annette Sorensen, Mogens Weirauch, Lissi and Morten.



● An interesting collection of drawings, sketches and water colours by Sudanese artist Hasan Hakeem are on show at the Ghadir Gallery. Hakeem, who has lived in Kuwait for several years, captures scenes of life in and around Kuwait. A particularly nice drawing is the sketch of Omar Khayyam, (above). Another interesting work shows an African woman (below) decked in finery with a symbolic dove sitting on her head. The exhibition will continue till April 21.



Play on Palestinians draws crowd in London

LONDON, April 4. (Kuna): Kufur Shamma, a play by a leading Palestinian Theatre Company — El Hakawati (Story Teller), performed last week in London attracted a large audience.

It has been described by critics as "vigorous and vivid theatrical imagery."

The play was performed at the Almeida Theatre in London.

Kufur Shamma is the story of a village describing the misery and suffering of the Palestinian people living under the Israeli occupation forces.

It is the story of a Palestinian who has been deprived of his homeland and identity.

The director of the play, Francois Abu Salem, said the play "conveys the message of the uprising as a complete theatrical work."

Kufur Shamma tells the story of two Palestinian brothers. One of them is Waleed, who has no influence in his village despite his brother being the village Mukhtar. After a dispute between the two brothers, Waleed leaves his village and goes to Egypt. He returns home

after several years to find his deserted village, occupied only by a lunatic who stays back.

The theme revolves around Waleed's search for the villagers, and how they were scattered. Waleed and the lunatic begin the search for the missing people. The play dramatises the plight of the Palestinians under Zionist occupation.

The Listener magazine describes Kufur Shamma as a "powerful and impassioned" play.

Director Abu Salem said "The audience can understand the problem (of Palestinians) and can sympathise with them."

Abu Salem said his theatre company, El Hakawati has been subject to harsh measures in Israel. The company was closed 13 times because the "military authorities were convinced that our plays inflame patriotic feelings among the Palestinians."

The goal of El Hakawati, he said, is to promote arts and culture. The company has performed several plays in London.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

2.15 Holy Quran
2.30 World News via Satellite
3.35 Tan Tan: cartoon serial
4.00 News Summary
4.05 Magazine D'Actualite
4.25 Wa'ma'tassma: daily historical serial, starring Tamah Al Tamimi, Siha Salem, Sami Qafan, Hina Mohammad.
5.15 You and Your health: presented by Dr. Rashed Al Owaish.
6.00 Songs
7.00 News Summary
7.05 Afaq Al Fann: Art Horizons Presented by Abdul Rasool Salman.
7.35 Animal World: documentary
8.00 Hadith Al Usbooh: religious talk by Sheikh Al Al Jassar.
8.15 Good Evening and Local News
9.00 News in Arabic
9.50 Pages from the History of Kuwait:

prepared and presented by Saif Marzouk Al Shamlan.
10.50 Layali Al Hilmiya: Arabic serial, starring Yahya Fakhrani, Firdous Abdul Hamid, Huda Sultan, Hussein Yusuf.
11.40 News Summary
11.45 World News via Satellite
12.15 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Pole Positions: new cartoon serial.
6.30 Punkey Brewster: Punkie finds out that her new neighbor has kidnapped his daughter.
7.00 Beyond 2000: a look at latest advances in science and technology. Tonight, a look at modern educational technology, new building designs, a hotel run by computers and space studies at a centre in Japan.

8.00 News in English
8.40 You and the Law: a local programme.
8.50 Leg Work: "Mystery Woman," a new series about a female private eye and her adventures.
9.30 Married with Children: "Nightmare on Al's Street." Marcy is cheated by two women.
10.00 Omni: The New Frontier: hosted by Peter Ustinov. A look at mineral wealth and a tree in the Amazon forest which stores oil.
10.30 Made-for-TV Movie: "Kate's Secret." Starring: Meredith Baxter, Ben Masters. The story of a woman who binges after suffering from shock.
12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

MORNING
08.00 Opening
08.02 Songs and Music
08.05 Thoughts in Islam
08.30 Songs and Music
08.30 NEWS
08.40 Songs and Music
08.45 Daily Programme
09.00 Songs and Music
09.30 They Sold A Million
10.00 Our Press Today
10.05 Songs and Music
11.00 Closedown
13.30 NEWS on FM Service
EVENING
21.00 Opening
21.02 In The Latin Mood
21.30 NEWS
21.45 Point of View
21.55 Songs and Music
22.00 Religious Programme
22.15 In the Groove
22.45 Daily Programme
23.00 Hit Special
23.30 Jazz in Action
24.00 Closedown

BBC World Services

0000 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Radio News
30 12th Best on Record, 19th and 26th Karajan at 80.
0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
30 Short Story
45 Journey Round My people
0200 World News
09 Commentary
15 Network UK
30 Sports International
0300 World News
09 News about Britain
15 The World Today
30 John Peel
0400 Newsdesk
30 Virtuoso (ex. 26th Rhythms of the Sun)
45 Reflections
50 Financial News

FM Services

0800 Easy Listening
0830 News
0840 Easy Listening
1000 Songs and Music
1330 News
1340 Easy Listening
1400 Classical Music
1600 Easy Listening
1700 Italian Hour
1800 Pops
2130 News
2145 Pops
2300 Indian Classical Hour
2300 Easy Listening
2400 Instrumental Listening

Urdu

1900 Opening
1910 Bhitner Gaur
1920 Songs
1935 Press Report
1940 Radio Club
2000 News
2015 Aaj ka Intikhab
2030 Learning Arabic
2040 Jahan Numa
2100 Closedown

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Dubai Pharmacy
Mohammad Ali Bldg., Souk Waqaf, Algiers St.
Al Rashid Pharmacy
Ahmad Al Jaber St.
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Khayyam Pharmacy
Beirut St.
Salmiya and Rumaythiya
Al Nahda Pharmacy
Baghdad St.
Fahadheel and Almadadi
Abu Halifa Pharmacy
Coast Road

Jeeb Al Shiyook
Al Razi Pharmacy
Area 7, Bloc 3., Bldg. Mubarak Al Khazainaj
Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opp. Cooperative Society

PRAYERS

Fajr 4.11 am
Zuhr 11.51
Asr 3.23 pm
Maghreb 6.10
Isha 7.27

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
No Dead Heroes
Starring: Max Shapier.
Tony Nero
Al Salmiya
Doing Time
Starring: Day Young
Al Firdous
Kudrat Ka Kanoon (Hindi)
Starring: Jackie Shroff.
Hema Malini, Radhika

Al Hamra
One Crazy Summer
Drive-In
Li'binaat Haaratna (Arabic)
Starring: Ahmad Bader.
Bosi, Iham Shahin
Ahmad Drive-In
Al Rajul Yahub Marratani (Arabic)

Al Fahadheel
Rage of Honour
Granada
Villambaram (Malayalam)
Salabikhat
Wise Guys
Al Jeeb
Teen Tekka (Bengali)
Fahadheel Open-Air
Nastik (Hindi)

WHAT'S ON

MUSIC

Upasana
Upasana presents a musical night — Ghanamanjari, featuring South Indian film songs, on April 7, 7.30 pm.

Geethanjali — a selection of Hindi, Tamil, Malayalam songs — will be presented by the same group, 6.30 pm, on April 8.

Both programmes will be held at the Indian Arts Circle auditorium, Funaitees. For reservations, phone 5643643; 3987409.

Sargam Kay Sitaray
Sargam Kay Sitaray, a musical nite, will be held on April 7 at the Cinema Granada. Tel: 5723573; 5759283.

SOCIAL

Ladies Tea Party
International Ladies Tea Party is on Wednesday April 6, from 5 pm at the Kuwait Plaza Hotel. Highlight of the evening will be a children's fashion show, sponsored by leading stores in Kuwait. Tel: 5386297; 5317390.

Daniella
The annual family rally will be held on Friday, April 15. For registration contact Connie — 3947696 before April 10.

Seminar on Cinema
A seminar on Cinema and Its Role in the Media will be held on April 13 at 7 pm at the Graduates Society. It has been jointly organised by the Cine Club, the Kuwaiti Women's Cultural Society and the Graduates Society. Farouk Abdul Aziz, Dr Ghanem Al Najjar will participate in the seminar.

Badesik Picnic
The Bangladesh Diploma Engineers Society in Kuwait (Badesik) will organise a picnic-cum-cultural show on Friday, April 8, from 9 am, at the Mangaf Family Beach. Bangladesh diploma engineers can participate in the picnic. Contact the organisers for details.

Alumni get-together
The T.K.M. College of Engineering will hold a get-together on April 21 at the SAS Hotel. Those who have not registered please contact 2402945; 4336416 after 7 pm.

Filipino Cultural Show
Auditions for singers, dancers and props-men will be held on April 8, 4 pm, at the Philippines Embassy premises, for a cultural show and food festival due to be held in June. The show will be organised by Kuwait-Philippines Economic Council in coordination with the Philippine Embassy, Flaksik and Kapilku. For details contact Gil Herico — 2522034; 2521754.

Kuwait Welsh Society
The Society will hold a "Nosen Lawen" (social evening), 8 pm, April 7. For details phone 3912384; 4874548.

ARTS

Ghadir Gallery
Sudanese artist Hasan Hakeem is showing drawings and sketches at the gallery in Salmiya Complex. It is open daily from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.30 pm, until April 21.

Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem Gallery
Kuwait's formative artists are showing their paintings at the 20th annual exhibition at the Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem Gallery, near Fatima Mosque. The exhibition is open daily, except Friday, from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, until April 7.

Free Atelier
An exhibition of paintings by Samiya Ahmad Sayyed Omar is open daily from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm at the Free Atelier Gallery, Arabian Gulf St., near Amiri Hospital. It runs until April 7.

Sultan Gallery
An exhibition of oil paintings by Pakistani artist Yasmeen Bhainia is open daily, except Friday, from 9 am to 1 pm and 5 to 8 pm at the gallery, Al Soor St., until April 14.

Kuwait National Museum
Thirty six Palestinian artists are exhibiting their work at the Kuwait National Museum, Arabian Gulf St., open from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, until April 7.

THEATRE

Stepping Out
Kuwait Players present the comedy "Stepping Out," directed by Ken Winston with choreography by Donna Smith, who also plays the lead, from April 10 to 14 at the Crystal Ballroom, Regency Palace Hotel. Tickets sold out for gala night — dress black tie or lounge suit. Tickets (KD5 each, including buffet on gala night and snacks on other nights) available for all other nights. For reservations ring 5331269; 5745838; 5383149.

SPORTS

Goan Cup
Young Goans Association, Kuwait, will hold a seven-a-side football tournament on the first day of Eid Al Fitr at the Al Sour Grounds. The draw will be on the same day at 7.30 am. Tournament matches commence at 7.45 am. This tournament is open to all communities, subject to approval by the organisers. For details contact Tom — 2419409; Almeida — 4813892 ext. 232.

E.M.A.C. Tournament
A tennis tournament for under-16s will be held from April 13 to 16 at the SAS Hotel. Participating teams are from Abu Dhabi, Oman, Damascus, American School of Kuwait, Universal American School, Kuwait English School and New English School. The tournament has been organised by E.M.A.C. (Eastern Mediterranean Activities Conference).

Colenutt Regatta
Al Kubbar Yachting Committee will hold its annual Colenutt dinghy-windsurfing regatta on April 14 and 15 at the TEC Sea Club in Fahadheel. Participants with own dinghy-surfboard (competition fee KD 5) and spectators welcome. For details phone 4842493 after 2 pm.

Bowling Tournament
The Philippine Bowlers Association in Kuwait (PBAK) will hold the handicap bowling tournament from 9 am on April 8 at Club 300. The tournament is open to all men and women. Deadline for submitting entries is April 6. Fee: KD 4.500.

K.O.S.A.
Kuwait Offshore Sailing Committee (K.O.S.A.) will hold an extraordinary general meeting on April 19, 1600 hours, at Fahadheel Sea Club. All members are invited to attend.

Gifts from Kleenex Huggies are back again

Mothers, take all the HUGGIES coupons you have collected and go to one of the exchange centres and get one valuable gift for your baby.

Six thousand gifts are waiting for you, chosen carefully to fit your baby at different ages. Gifts are divided into six groups and one special group according to what you present in points.

(Small size : One point)

(Big size : Three points).

The point system starts from six points upto one hundred and twenty points.

HUGGIES DIAPERS are the best for your baby. It prevents leakage with its high absorbing ability to keep your baby dry.



Exchange Centres :
Roma Baby Needs - CHICCO
Salem Al Mubarak Str. Salmiya
Al Muntasser Pharmacy
Ahmad Al Jaber str. Sharq

Offer is valid till supplies last.

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE greater the difficulty, the greater the glory —
Cicero, Roman statesman-philosopher (106 BC - 43 BC)

S. Korean activists go underground

'Disguised workers' enter factories

By Daniel Snelder

SEOUL — For nearly two years, Chang Kwan Shik (not his real name) worked quietly among 170 other part-time workers in an auto parts factory in the industrial city of Incheon. Last August, along with hundreds of thousands of other South Korean workers, the men at Chang's plant went on strike demanding a fairer share of what is called the Korean economic miracle.

For five days, Chang led the strike for higher wages and the right to form a trade union. Only during the strike did he reveal to his fellow workers the truth he had so carefully concealed.

He was a former university activist, sent in as a underground organiser.

The government refers to activists like Chang as "disguised workers," accusing them of spreading "leftist" and "subversive" ideas in the factories.

Unquestionably, Chang appears to belong in the book stacks of a library, not alongside a metal press. The soft-spoken, bespectacled young man entered a Seoul university in 1980, where he became involved in the student movement. In 1983 he was jailed for organising antigovernment demonstrations on campus. He was released the following year.

Chang was barred from completing school but was determined to continue in the cause of what he calls "social change" and "economic self-determination." Because of his appearance he was advised to play a role as a teacher in the widespread network of campus study circles which recruit students by teaching from banned neo-Marxist and Western radical books.

Chang instead chose to be a labour organiser. "In order to change society, you have to work with the masses," he says.

The Korean government forbids such "outside" organisers

and any open activity along these lines brings immediate arrest. There are a number of loosely linked underground groups — many affiliated with Christian churches, others with Marxist sects.

After a period of training by veteran underground organisers on how to avoid revealing his true identity, Chang entered the factory in early 1986. His immediate goal was to organise a trade union. He worked alongside other labourers, earning their trust while he searched for the natural leaders in their ranks. To his surprise, he ferreted out another "disguised worker," sent in by another organisation without his knowledge.

Together, along with three others, he planned and sparked the August 1987 strike. The strike was a partial victory. The workers won a raise but the union organisers were fired.

"Through those five days of the strike, they shared their unity and they achieved something out of it," reflects Chang. "The monetary gains are secondary to the consciousness they gained," he insists.

Disputes
Activists are expected to again play a small but catalytic role in the next wave of labour disputes expected to take place through the end of April when factory contracts are traditionally negotiated. However, these "disguised workers" have had little success, say experts on the labour movement, in attracting workers to wider political struggles.

South Korea's remarkable economic growth, pushing the country so rapidly into the ranks of the industrial world, has been based in part on low industrial wages and a growing gap in income distribution. But it has also meant rising living standards, putting colour televisions, refrigerators, and even cars within reach of most average workers.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

Honasan's escape puts Aquino on defensive

By Chaitanya Kalbag

MANILA, (Reuters): Coup leader Colonel Gregorio Honasan's escape from captivity on Saturday has dramatically revived threats to Philippine President Corazon Aquino's power, analysts said.

"Honasan's escape couldn't have occurred at a less convenient moment for Aquino," an Asian diplomat said.

Aquino is scheduled to visit China from April 14 on her first overseas trip since November 1986.

Crucial talks on the future of the two US military bases in the Philippines open today.

The same day about 100 top-ranking Japanese businessmen are scheduled to arrive in Manila to review Tokyo's flagging investments in the cash-strapped country.

"Everything has received a setback," the diplomat said. "If the country's most wanted man can slip through the government's hands so easily, embarrassing questions about the Philippines' stability are going to be asked again."

Coup

Since August, when Honasan led the most serious of five coup attempts Aquino has faced in her two-year rule, the embattled president has moved to end unrest among her troops.

She pushed through a 60 per cent pay rise for the 160,000-strong military and replaced armed forces chief Fidel Ramos in a reshuffle of top military posts.

Late last month she retired 30 generals, streamlined command structures and demanded "more soldiers behind guns and less behind desks" in the fight against communist rebels.

"I myself now feel more comfortable. I can plan now for the future," Aquino told reporters last week.

But political analysts said the future seemed clouded after Honasan's apparently easy getaway from a prison ship.

The escape soured government jubilation over last week's

capture of three high-ranking communist leaders on the 19th anniversary of the insurgency.

Analysts said the grim-faced Aquino had sounded almost querulous in a televised statement on Saturday evening.

Revealing that court-martial proceedings against Honasan had been about to begin, she said the coup leader had been given humane treatment. "But what have we received in return? We have received continuing betrayal," she said.

Revolt

An Asian military analyst said Aquino's warning to the military not to aid Honasan, and fears voiced by a military spokesman that Honasan and troops loyal to him might mount another revolt, had only helped to heighten public anxiety.

"The way Honasan has been handled from the beginning was so mushy," the analyst said. "He was not kept in a high-security military prison, lived in style on the prison ship at taxpayers' expense, and was allowed frequent visits by his family."

Francisco Nemenzo, a political science professor at the University of the Philippines, said young middle-ranking officers sympathetic to Honasan were unimpressed by Aquino's leadership changes.

"It's the colonels who count. They are the ones who command the troops in the field. And I'm afraid they are not Aquino's men," Nemenzo said. "No amount of reshuffling of generals will alter the balance of forces in the military."

A Western diplomat said he did not think Honasan would make any quick moves against the government.

"He will regroup his men, unleash a propaganda barrage, and choose a moment when the government makes some big mistake to strike, if at all," the diplomat said.

Nemenzo said Aquino had not yet been able to be effective.

"This government is racing against time. If it can't stabilise soon it can never prove its capacity to change people's lives," he said.

Quest for scientific and technological self-reliance

India embarks on military research drive

By Brahma Chellaney

NEW DELHI: In dozens of laboratories across India, thousands of scientists and engineers are hard at work developing advanced weapons systems.

The country's military research drive, spearheaded by the government-run Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), has racked up a series of successes in recent years. The latest came Feb 25, with the accurate test-firing of an indigenously produced surface-to-surface missile.

Diplomats and newspaper analysts here see the test of the "Prithvi" missile as an indication of rapid progress India is making toward achieving an independent weapons-production capability.

"The defence projects are part of India's quest for scientific and technological self-reliance," says Prof. Martin Zuberi, an arms-control specialist at New Delhi's

Jawaharlal Nehru University.

"Our policymakers realise that India's independence and national security cannot be guaranteed unless we achieve a good measure of self-reliance," Professor Zuberi says.

Although exact figures are not available, India spends a considerable portion of its defence budget on importing advanced military hardware from the Soviet Union and Western countries. (Its 1988 defence budget is about \$10 billion).

Progress

In addition to the Prithvi missile, India has developed a sophisticated anti-tank missile, the Nag; two types of surface-to-air missiles — the radar-controlled, short-range Trishul and the medium-range Akash; as well as a high-explosive incendiary system and rocket boosters for launching pilotless aircraft. In addition, the weapons projects have spurred progress in allied fields such as metallurgy and space research.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gand-

hi's main scientific adviser, Prof. M.G.K. Menon, cites two reasons for India's advances in defence research and development:

- The accelerated development during the 1970s of an integrated research structure under the Defence Ministry.
- Long-term defence planning.

"We have moved from improvements and adaption (in weapon systems) to clear-cut and fairly large projects based on long-term defence planning," Professor Menon says.

Purchases

The recent successes in weapons development, however, have been accompanied by apparent setbacks and failures in other projects. For example, the DRDO worked for 14 years on a multibillion-rupee project and built six different prototype tanks. The Army rejected all as not "safe, reliable, or maintainable."

And, due to a funding crunch, India has found it difficult to

catch up with economically advanced nations in some areas of military technology. In recent years, therefore, it has made outright purchases of the most advanced systems from abroad, particularly from the Soviet Union — including buying top-of-the-line MiG-29 fighter jets, and leasing a nuclear-powered submarine.

"We must guard against becoming too dependent on the Soviets," says Lt Gen. S.K. Sinha, a former vice-Army chief. "This underlines the importance of expanding the capacity for indigenous production of weapons. A defence budget that can meet these requirements is an inescapable security necessity."

The \$10-billion military outlays accounts for 15 per cent of Rajiv's new budget unveiled recently. Accurate figures for spending on defence research are difficult to compile because some research is financed by the space, atomic energy, and science and technology departments.

The budget sets aside nearly \$1

billion for space and nuclear programmes. (India demonstrated a capability to build atomic weapons by exploding a plutonium device in 1974. But the government insists it is not developing such weapons).

General Sinha, arguing that military outlays cannot be cut, points to India's military spending levels being among the lowest in the world in terms of gross domestic product. At 4.2 per cent of the gross national product, it is far less than China's and Pakistan's, he says.

Buildup

Many scholars view India's growing arms advances as part of its efforts to match the military capabilities of its main rival, China. But some believe the advances would spur a Pakistani arms buildup.

"Jubilant over the launch (of Prithvi) should be tempered with the thought that the feat escalates the race for armaments on the subcontinent," said the Indian Express, the country's largest English newspaper, in an

editorial. Professor Zuberi, however, views India's weapons advances in the context of what he calls "the global diffusion of economic and military power."

"The big power monopoly over advanced weapons technology has been gradually eroding, and new centres of military and economic power are emerging in the world," he says. "India is one of them."

And increasing self-reliance in defence needs, analysts say, helps insulate India from international pressure to prevent it from acquiring components for advanced technology with military applications.

For instance, following India's Trishul tests, even Western countries agreed last April to restrict sale of missile components and technology. But the latest Prithvi test shows that technology denial alone cannot halt development of new weapons in nations like India.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.



Shadow of America looms over Philippines

Tough talks on US bases begin

By Daniela Deane

MANILA, (UPI): Washington and Manila begin today to review the status of America's largest and oldest overseas military bases. They will really be talking about only one thing — survival.

No matter that the meeting's unofficial agenda speaks of financial compensation, labour conditions or the spread of AIDS. The real question is: Can the bases stay beyond the 1991 expiration of the treaty that governs them?

The answer is by far the toughest foreign policy choice President Corazon Aquino's administration will make during its tenure.

The bases talks, officially billed as a "review" of the 1947 treaty, are expected to drag for months. The last review, with the ousted regime of Ferdinand Marcos in 1983, took six weeks.

Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, the chief Philippine negotiator, laid out the government's position in a tough speech a week before the talks' opening.

Complaining that the "powerful shadow of America" looms

over his country — a US colony for 48 years — Manglapus said Philippine national interests will dictate the review.

Some 19,000 US personnel and their dependants are stationed at Subic Bay Naval Base, a 14,000-plus-acre sprawl in one of the world's greatest natural harbours northwest of Manila. Over the hills in Luzon's central valley is Clark Air Base, home of 9,600 US personnel and 13,000 dependants.

Termination
Nationalist groups — and several senators — have urged Aquino to serve notice of termination of the agreement, arguing the country can never reach its full potential while still under the "yoke of colonialism."

Others, including the majority of the people who live around the bases, say the country could not survive without the revenue and jobs that come with them. Feelings run so high that Socorro Diokno, head of the anti-bases coalition, says her left-leaning group will stage no sit-ins or demonstrations during the talks because people are "afraid to be killed."

Two youths recently claimed they were abducted and tortured

while putting up anti-bases posters in Manila. One died and the other was hospitalised.

US officials repeatedly have stressed that the bases serve the defence interests of other allies in the Pacific area and counter Soviet bases in Vietnam.

But Manglapus said the Philippines is tired of shouldering all the "political responsibility" for the security of south-east Asia.

"We are alone, left alone to deal with a divisive issue whose polarising impact impairs our drive to stabilise our renewed democracy," Manglapus said.

Manglapus also has made clear the Aquino government wants a lot more money for the use of the bases.

In the last review, Washington agreed to pay \$900 million in aid over a five-year period. In 1987, Washington gave a supplemental \$250 million in military and other assistance.

Asked how much he thought the United States should pay now, Manglapus told one reporter, "billions."

"What we are given is one-sixth of the total of almost \$1.3 billion awarded to Greece, Turkey, Portugal and Spain," he said. He

pointed to billions in aid to Egypt and Israel, which host no US bases.

Another problem is the Philippine worry that US servicemen are spreading AIDS. Some 40 women, almost all prostitutes working around the bases, have tested positive for the virus, which has not proved as prevalent in Asia as elsewhere.

A potentially explosive problem is the Philippine constitution's nuclear-free provision, which prohibits the storing or transport of nuclear weapons in its territory.

The United States maintains a strict policy of neither confirming nor denying the presence of nuclear arms.

The review could turn into negotiations talks, which the United States has admitted it would like to see. Or they could end with the Aquino government, which has avoided taking a stand on the bases for more than two years, finally serving an eviction notice.

The commander of the American forces in the Pacific, Adm. Ronald Hayes, was recently quoted as saying Washington has "options" if Manila decides against renewing.

UN - model session

Students find nations not very united

By Peter James Spielmann

UNITED NATIONS, (AP): While the United Nations grappled last week with the Iran-Iraq war and the Palestinian uprising, students at an international model UN session debated the same crises and fared no better at solving them.

More than 1,500 students at the National Model United Nations sessions did gain a better understanding of why the organisation has difficulties fulfilling its mission as a world peacemaker.

Accused

The students must follow the policies of the nations they represent, and the rhetoric in debates was, as diplomats say, "frank and fruitful" — that is, blunt and productive, particularly when South Africa, Israel, Iran, Iraq or Nicaragua were drawn into debate.

"From the simulation we can feel the frustration the real diplomats feel," said Takeshi Akahori, one of the delegates representing Japan, adding that several of the 11 Japanese delegates were driven to tears by the intense criticism their nation's policies received.

Akahori recalled blistering criticism from African delegates, mostly played by Americans, who accused Japan and Western nations of trading with South Africa.

"Perhaps we were not used to normal American aggressiveness. I believe we learned something about American culture, about the behaviour of ordinary Americans," said Akahori, who is from Tokyo University.

American students constitute about 80 per cent of the delegates from all nations; about 100 Canadians formed the second-largest contingent.

Students from Japan and Canada represented their own nations, but most students adopted roles alien to the cultural and political settings in which they were raised.

"At first it was a weird feeling," said Wolfram Winter, one of 12 students from the University of Munich in West Germany, who paradoxically represented, East Germany.

He said his fellow students adjusted swiftly, however. "We're from West Germany, we know East Germany quite well — not just from books."

"You have to follow what the Russians are saying. You just take the Soviet argument and

use them; sometimes you use more emphasis, and sometimes less. But you always vote with the Russians."

Other delegates had to undergo more difficult mental and ideological adjustments.

Understand

"It is not easy to represent other views," said Boris Karlov, a Soviet student acting as the US ambassador, "but it is extremely important to help us understand each other; to help us understand how the United States thinks, for the United States to understand how the Soviets view the world." He was one of four Soviet students at the sessions.

"By the end of the week, you come to accept your role," said Brian Hayden, an American acting as secretary-general at this year's session which ran from Tuesday through Saturday.

"One of the better learning experiences is coming up against the United States in a debate. I remember thinking, 'are we (the United States) really that difficult to work with?'"

The role-playing can help students overcome their national bias. One of the most outspoken delegates this year was Betsy Snider, an American who was the delegate from the Palestine

Liberation Organisation's observer mission.

Snider, who described her personal politics as "Republican," said that "at one time I felt that the United States was always right, but when I started (attending model UN sessions) I started to have pro-Arab sympathies."

The National Model United Nations conference dates back to 1923, when its predecessor organisation simulated the League of Nations. It changed its name in 1946 after the founding of the United Nations.

The organisation is organised by a non-profit committee affiliated with the UN Department of Public Information, and funded by fees paid by students attending the sessions.

Many delegates previously participated in regional or national model UN sessions coordinated by colleges in their homelands, and some received full or partial scholarships to attend the conference, based at a hotel near the UN building.

The students soon learn the limits of the UN system: bloc voting, lack of enforcement power, vetoes by the permanent members of the Security Council — the United States, Soviet Union, China, Britain and France.

France.

France.

Common interest in Angola may bring Pretoria, Moscow closer

By Laurinda Keys

JOHANNESBURG, (AP): South Africa and the Soviet Union, ideological enemies who haven't met formally since 1956, are hinting that their common interest in war-torn Angola may open the door to direct dealings on political issues.

South African officials, who for years have portrayed their country as a bastion against communism, now say they're ready to talk with the Soviet Union.

And Soviet diplomats and writers have indicated a possible change in Moscow's attitude, saying it might be feasible to negotiate with South Africa on some issues without waiting for an end to apartheid, which the Kremlin has long condemned.

The Soviets, however, have denied, and the South Africans have refused to confirm, persistent reports that low-level meetings have already taken place between the two countries in Europe, Lesotho and at the United Nations.

The two nations have long had dealings in international gold and diamond markets, and Soviet-bloc countries have reportedly done business with South Africa despite military and economic boycotts.

Discussions
But the way is open now for political discussions because of Angola, where the Soviet Union and 40,000 Cuban troops are backing the Marxist government in its 12-year-old war against the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita).

The United States and South Africa aid the rebels militarily, and South African soldiers have been fighting in southern Angola to help Unita defeat government offensives.

The Soviet Union is believed to want to cut its involvement in Angola. Franz Josef Strauss, governor of the West German state of Bavaria, met with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze just before a January trip to South Africa.

"Clearly they (the Soviets) do want some settlement," Strauss said. "Things have not been going well for them there."

"I believe that we may be able to talk about a settlement," South African President P.W. Botha was quoted as saying in a London Sunday Telegraph interview March 27. "I believe in talking to everybody, and trading with everybody."

He wouldn't, however, say whether South Africa was talking to the Soviets already.

Agreement

South African Foreign Minister R.F. Botha insists an Angolan settlement is far off. No agreement has been drawn up, he has said. Each side demands that the other withdraw first.

Meanwhile, the Soviets are the major weapons supplier for the African National Congress, the main guerrilla group fighting to overthrow the white-dominated South African government by force. But ANC officials have been upset since 1986 by an emphasis by Soviet diplomats and academics on a negotiated, rather than a military, victory.

"There is no doubt at all that an elimination of the racist system by way of a political settlement would be in the interests of all South Africans, both black and white. One should look for and find the road to such a settlement," Soviet leader Mikhail

Gorbachev said in August.

In papers and speeches, Soviet experts seem to be saying that a black revolution is not around the corner; that white South Africans, particularly Afrikaners, will have to bedevil with even under a new government; and that apartheid may not have to be eliminated before fighting ends in Angola and South-West Africa.

Supporters

Late last year, L.G. Asoyan, a senior member of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, said in the Moscow weekly Literaturnaya Gazeta that South Africa doesn't fit the Marxist-Leninist model for revolutions because white workers are the strongest supporters of apartheid, black policemen raid the homes of their own tribesmen and some members of the ruling class support the oppressed.

In South Africa, a new Soviet desk has been created at the Department of Foreign Affairs, and President Botha has been quoted as saying he was impressed by Gorbachev's book "Perestroika."

There is a possibility for some form of rapprochement between the countries, however, there is a possibility of embarrassment for both sides.

The Soviet Union ended diplomatic relations with South Africa in 1955, and Moscow's relations with almost every other nation on the continent could suffer if it negotiated with a government it says is illegal.

On the other side, President Botha has made "red-bashing" a major theme. The white electorate has long been told that a Soviet-inspired "conspiracy" is behind every anti-apartheid organisation.

Non-aligned
However, Defence Minister Magnus Malan suggested March 5 that the Soviet Union might approach the Angolan situation as it has Afghanistan. If the Soviets accepted a non-aligned Angolan government, South Africa would, too, he said.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov responded: "The situation in Angola and the situation in Afghanistan are completely different. The only similarity is that both countries begin with the letter 'A'."

South Africa has said its withdrawal from the occupied territory of South-West Africa, or Namibia, hinges on the departure of Cubans from Angola. Botha recently said "South Africans would stay in Angola itself until the Cubans leave."

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1594 — Jean Chastel, pupil of the Jesuits, attempts to assassinate France's King Henry IV.
- 1664 — Peace Treaty of Westminster ends first Anglo-Dutch war.
- 1794 — French revolutionaries G.J. Danton and Camille Desmoulins are executed.
- 1826 — Russian ultimatum to Turkey over Serbia and Danubian provinces.
- 1881 — Britain concludes treaty of Pretoria with Boers, recognising independence of South African Republic of Transvaal.
- 1886 — Abdul Hamid II, Sultan of Turkey, appoints Alexander of Bulgaria as governor of eastern Rumelia.
- 1939 — All German children between ages of 10 and 13 are ordered to serve in Hitler youth organisation.
- 1946 — Soviet Union agrees to withdraw troops from Iran on promise of reforms in Azerbaijan.
- 1951 — Julius and Ethel Rosenberg of New York City are sentenced to death as atomic spies for Soviet Union.
- 1958 — Fidel Castro begins "total war" against Batista government in Cuba.
- 1969 — Four-man British expedition reaches North Pole after 14-month, 1,300-mile (2,100 km) trek by dog sled.
- 1971 — Pakistan airlifts foreigners from East Pakistan, as fighting rages during a revolt.
- 1986 — Bomb, blamed on terrorists, kills two and injures 155 as it rips through crowded West Berlin discotheque popular with US soldiers.
- 1987 — Swiss voters approve government proposal tightening immigration control in face of refugee flow from Asia and Africa.

امانة

Controversy emerges after several boom years

Panda diplomacy under fire

By Timothy Aepfel

WASHINGTON: Conservationists are having second thoughts about the way China loans out its giant pandas.

Long a symbol of international wildlife preservation, the teddy-bear-like creatures have become a big business. Zoos that borrow the rare animals can make a fortune — as people flock through the gates and snatch up panda-related trinkets and T-shirts. The Chinese, meanwhile, get about \$300,000 in hard currency from a typical three-month loan.

"Anytime you have an essentially commercial activity like this, it creates pressure to remove animals from the wild," says Christopher Elliott, China programme coordinator for the World Wildlife Fund. "And that's what we're trying to avoid."

Recent short-term loans have been made to San Diego, New York, and Tampa, Fla.

Up until now, conservationists comforted themselves with the thought that the money China got from the loans came in the form of donations earmarked for panda preservation. Publicity from the loans was also considered a benefit, since it might enhance public appreciation for the plight of many endangered species.

But in recent months, conservation groups have become critical of the practice. The World Wildlife Fund yesterday called on the US to stop accepting loans until China takes significant steps to assure the animal's long-term survival.

Decline
Switzerland, has influential International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) voiced strong reservations about the practice during its annual meeting in Costa Rica earlier this month. The IUCN's position is especially important since zoos around the world look to them for advice on such issues.

The key question is whether or not the loaned animals might



Veterinarians monitor the heartbeat of a 7-year-old giant panda at the San Diego zoo. The Chinese train the pandas to do tricks which builds a trust enabling keepers to conduct physical examinations without the use of tranquilisers.

be better off in China, where they would be available to take part in large-scale breeding and research programmes.

Some experts say the number of giant pandas in the wild is continuing to decline, while the Chinese captive breeding programme is still poorly coordinated. The last panda census, made in the mid-1970s, placed the number of animals in the wild at about 1,000. The Chinese have poured money into panda conservation — to expand reserves and build research facilities. But some observers say that much more needs to be done.

The controversy emerges after several years of booming "panda diplomacy." Loaned pandas have shown up all over the world — especially Western Europe and the US. Such loans are in contrast to the permanent exhibits found in cities such as Washington, Mexico City, and Tokyo.

The Chinese do not charge

directly for loans, but rather accept donations for conservation within the framework of each agreement. The documents also include provisions for bringing along Chinese keepers who take care of the animals while they are on exhibit.

"Most of us would feel better about it, if we were able to breed pandas," says Terry Maple, director of Zoo Atlanta. But the loan agreements specifically say no research or breeding efforts are allowed. That doesn't really matter though, since three to six months is really not enough time to establish a breeding pair.

Zoos have asked that only animals that are unable to breed be sent, such as young pandas that have not yet reached sexual maturity.

But even this causes problems. In the case of Calgary, for instance, the Chinese initially proposed sending an 11-year-old female and a 14-

year-old male. When the zoo objected, the Chinese responded that since the animals had never reproduced, they were nonbreeders. In the end, the Chinese relented, sending two immature females.

Calgary's experience also underscores the political pressures often behind panda loans.

Initially, the Calgary Zoo had said it didn't want a pair of pandas, unless it would be for a long-term breeding effort. But the mayor of Calgary objected, saying the pandas were an important element of the city's plans for the Olympics.

Calgary Zoo director Peter Karsten agreed to the plan — but only after he was assured by officials at the IUCN that such loans were not destructive to the species. This was before the IUCN altered its position.

"There's a lot of pressure on zoo directors to pursue (Panda loans)," says Mr Karsten. In the US for instance, it is widely known that President Carter used personal contacts in Peking to push for a loan to Atlanta, while New York Mayor Edward Koch began lobbying for that city's loan as early as 1980.

Most conservationists and zoo directors agree that the loans have to be carefully monitored. At a recent meeting in Chicago of zoo community representatives and conservationists, participants mapped out a revised set of guidelines for such loans. But since the guidelines are voluntary, there is no way to assure compliance.

The official US position is being formulated by the Fish and Wildlife Service, which is required to approve the importation of any endangered species. A draft policy that would tighten the requirements for loans is now circulating among officials. If approved, the policy could be felt quickly. The zoos in Atlanta and Toledo must submit applications soon if they want to receive their pandas on schedule.

1988, The Christian Science Monitor News Service

By Stephen Hughes

RABAT, (Reuters): The camels which used to carry gold and ivory across the Sahara until they were replaced by motor vehicles, are coming back.

Experts from nine desert countries who met in Algeria last month to discuss the camel's declining numbers decided that far from becoming extinct it will soon make a comeback.

The camel population has slumped in a quarter of a century from well over a million head to about 300,000 today in Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia.

The main reason is that the four countries are relatively affluent and can afford pipelines, railways, trucks and aircraft for transportation.

In this kind of environment the traditional nomadic way of life in the desert has tended to disappear, and with it the camels.

The experts found at the symposium in Algeria that the poorer a country is the more camels it has. Drought-stricken Mauritania has more than twice as many camels as the rest of north Africa put together — 785,000 in 1985 and 850,000 now.

Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia, which have also suffered disastrous droughts, have more than half the camels in the world — nine million head out of an estimated 17-18 million.

Tents are made from camel-hair and hidden poles and pegs are made from its bones, its milk and meat provide food, it can carry heavy loads over great distances and it is cheap to feed.

It will eat thorny vegetation other animals find inedible and drink foul water that would kill a human being, two qualities that make it ideal for drought areas.

Muslims in North Africa believe camels are a godsend, a gift of Allah providing housing, clothing and food besides an ideal means of desert locomotion.

Nomad poets have written thousands of verses about them. There are about 60 different names for camels in Arabic dialects, some affectionate, others much less so.

But apart from the literary lore and myths, including fantastic tales about its endurance, the truth is that the camel is still a necessity in parts of Africa.

Ship of the desert holding its own against technology

Camels make a comeback



After sharply declining in numbers, the camels are staging a comeback in arid areas of North Africa as a source of food, clothing, housing and tourism.

Medical staff on camels carrying solar-powered refrigerators for vaccines could soon become a familiar sight in the vast, desert expanse of northern and central Chad.

According to Ulf Kristofferson, of Unicef (United Nations Children's Fund), camel-mounted health workers could be making house calls by the end of this year. They will play a key role in an ambitious yet inexpensive programme to improve health facilities in rural areas.

Maximum

The programme will provide the maximum basic services to the maximum number of people at the lowest possible cost, he said in an interview.

Services will be concentrated around wells where health and other workers will provide immunisation, pre-and postnatal care, education and advice on how best to use water in small irrigation projects.

In a country with only 60 fully qualified doctors, Unicef is training 36 medical aides who will serve eight to 12 villages within a one-day camel ride of their base.

"Camels, relatively inexpensive and easy to maintain, are the most appropriate technology in the desert where populations easily identify with them," Kristofferson says.

A camel costs about \$400 "and they live an average of 50 years and need no spare parts." The only other form of practical transport in the desert is a four-wheel drive vehicle costing \$14,000, excluding fuel and maintenance.

Kristofferson says Unicef is testing solar-powered cold boxes strapped to the camels for vaccination programmes.

A similar pilot programme is being tried out in Burkina Faso and the scheme could be expanded to other sub-Saharan nations like Mali and Niger which have large camel popula-

tions. Camels have tended to disappear in North Africa because their meat is much cheaper than beef or mutton. Herds have been smuggled out of Tunisia and Algeria to Libya, where camel meat is popular and fetches much higher prices.

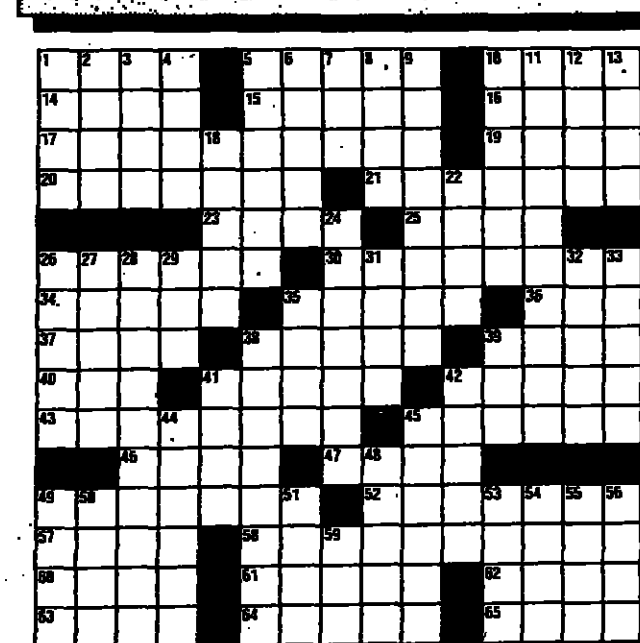
The irony is that after being decimated by meat-eaters the camel is expected to increase and multiply precisely because it can provide cheap protein in an arid environment.

Mohammed Moshah of Tunisia's Arid Regions Institute told last month's meeting in Algeria that his team had succeeded in making cheese out of camel's milk for the first time.

Although bad-tempered and ugly, "a horse designed by a committee" as one wag said, the camel is also an essential tourist attraction.

Travel agents say camel postcards and camel rides are a must in the Sahara. Tourists expect them.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Alan or Cheryl
 - Mark time of memorabilia
 - Canal of song
 - Swedish port
 - River of Zaire
 - Native of Granada
 - Ruth's "sultanate"
 - Inane
 - Joan of Arc
 - Napoleon's marshal and family
 - Parrot fish
 - Granny Smiths
 - Specialty fitted
 - Fetter
 - Biaspheme
 - Green bird of New Zealand
 - Wrongful act
 - Memorable Egyptian
 - Author Earl — Bigger
 - Corn or form
 - The Feast of Lots
 - Canary's cousin
 - Having the potential
 - Comes to an end
 - Road to Rome
 - Bagel emporium, for short
 - Wrinkled
 - Curl
 - Remain
 - Suspended
 - Natives of Bergen
 - Teenager's bane
 - The Orient
- DOWN**
- Kind of moth
 - In-the-wool
 - All in
 - Hebrew month
 - 1 Frond
 - 2 River in Tuscany
 - 3 Prank
 - 4 Bargain
 - 5 Entertains
 - 6 Wishty
 - 7 — Baba
 - 8 Muslim prayer leader
 - 9 Certain musician
 - 10 South: Comb. form
 - 11 People of Gotham
 - 12 Winged
 - 13 Puts down, in bridge
 - 14 Hope chest
 - 15 Resort in Sicily
 - 16 Function
 - 17 Prepared for
 - 25 Misbehave
 - 26 Sound: Prefix
 - 27 City of Light
 - 28 City of Light
 - 29 Ablaze
 - 30 Ancient Syria
 - 31 Uncanny
 - 32 Repairs holes in hose
 - 33 1984 Olympian — Lewis
 - 34 Underlets
 - 35 — volente
 - 36 Baked goods
 - 37 Type of pump
 - 38 Produced
 - 39 Customer
 - 40 Stu of the screen
 - 41 Shallow African lake
 - 42 Lively; juicy
 - 43 Village
 - 44 Western "monster"
 - 45 Acclaim
 - 46 Resort in Sicily
 - 47 Peter or Paul
 - 48 "Norma —"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

CAIPION BEA PRE
ADAMO WRAP RAVI
RIGER EASTSIDER
ANEST AVE ONINE
HAKU ASCOTS
STRAPS REC ESS
PIANOS AGES
ANGELUS GROUND
ERIC BUSTLER
DAS EDA ITALIA
REREAD BACH
OMITS GIN PANSY
WESTPOINT ALIAS
SALE IDEA WEDIE
NAE LET SNIEER

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
HANDLE WITH CARE

Both vulnerable. South deals.
NORTH
♠ A Q 9 4
♥ Q 7 5 4
♦ A J 2
♣ J

WEST
♠ 5 2
♥ J 10 8 2
♦ 10 8
♣ 10 9 7 4 3

EAST
♠ J 7 6 3
♥ 6 3
♦ K Q 7 6 4 3
♣ 8

SOUTH
♠ K 10 8
♥ A K
♦ 9 5
♣ A K Q 6 5 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
2 NT Pass 3 ♣ Dbl
3 NT Pass Rdbl Pass
6 NT Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Ten of ♣

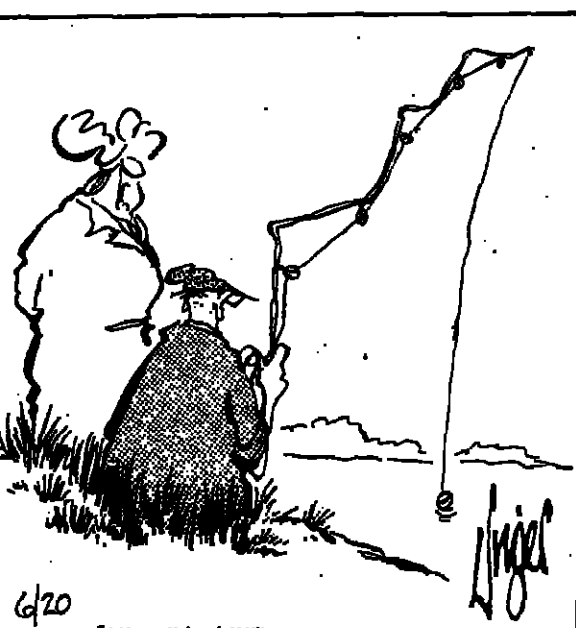
There should be a law against players who bid badly profiting from the error of their ways. We do not know what South was trying to accomplish in the auction. Nevertheless, he serendipitously landed in the right strain, albeit a level too low.

South's jump to two no trump deserves an award as the year's worst bid. With no tenaces and a weak doubleton, he had every rea-

son to suppose that no trump would play better from his partner's side of the table. North's three diamonds inquired about South's major-suit holding, and his redouble confirmed the ace of diamonds. Why South suppressed his heart holding and near solid club suit during the rest of the auction will forever remain shrouded in mystery.

As a result of East's double of three diamonds, West had no trouble getting his side off to its best start. Since there was no need to duck if suits were breaking, and no point to ducking if they were not, declarer rose with dummy's ace. He cashed the ace-king of hearts and crossed back to the table with the jack of clubs to see if the hearts would split out.

When that suit failed to break, declarer came to hand with the king of spades and tried to run his clubs. West's stopper in the suit was a considerable disappointment, but all was not lost. East was forced to come down to three spades and a diamond, and dummy was reduced to the same holding. Declarer carefully led the ten of spades to the ace and, reading the distribution perfectly, exited with the jack of diamonds. East was forced to win and concede the contract by leading from his J-7 of spades into the board's Q-9 tenace.



"Don't blame me! I told you not to put it in the trunk."

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

- Aries (March 20 - April 18)**
You will tend to be rather lethargic and will have to rouse yourself. Mercury's better influence will help you make the right decision. You will have a good opportunity to assert yourself.
- Cancer (June 21 - July 21)**
You should avoid wasting time on secondary matters. You will be in the right frame of mind to take the initiative. Others will be more in tune with you. Be receptive.
- Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)**
You will be able to find the solution to a practical problem. You should not do anything that you think might upset your partner. Do not go beyond the limits you have set yourself, expenditure or otherwise.
- Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)**
You will have the energy you need to deal with your problems. You should not try to hasten beyond your natural rhythm. Leave yourself with enough time for your personal affairs. Be understanding.
- Taurus (April 19 - May 19)**
Avoid drinking more than a modicum of strong coffee. You should try to keep calm when dealing with someone aggressive. Make sure you do not neglect a duty you have taken on. Be respectful.
- Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)**
You should not try to have the last word in all things. A good idea will help you to deal with a problem. You should try to avoid letting your moods spoil what is a good opportunity. Be more consistent.
- Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)**
You will be able to make progress with an urgent matter. You will be able to quell some doubts. Avoid doing anything too drastic or dramatic just now. Be sensible.
- Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)**
You should not take love for granted. You should not allow some secondary matter to occupy too much of your attention. If you want to learn you will have to make a greater effort. Be resourceful.
- Gemini (May 20 - June 20)**
Jupiter's less favourable influence will make it more important for you to concentrate on essentials. You should not allow yourself to be invaded by doubts. Take a little better care of your health.
- Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)**
You will find it easier to communicate with others. Try to look at matters from a new viewpoint. Stick to what is strictly practical. Be frugal.
- Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)**
You will be in the right frame of mind to tackle the problem at hand. Now is the time to try to make up a quarrel or difference of opinion. All kinds of distraction are to be avoided. Be fair.
- Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)**
You will be in the right frame of mind to tackle the problem at hand. Now is the time to try to make up a quarrel or difference of opinion. All kinds of distraction are to be avoided. Be fair.

Dear Junior Readers,

I trust those of you lucky to be on vacation this week are making the most of your spare time.

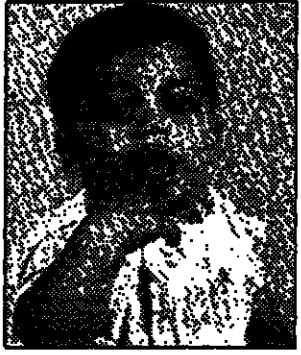
In case you're stuck, here are some suggestions for making yourself useful round the house: (a) have a spring-cleaning of your cupboards, desk-drawers etc; (b) sort out family photographs; (c) help re-pot indoor plants.

These are just some ideas to keep you going and I'm sure you can think of more ingenious ones to keep you from getting bored!

Aunt Barbara

Happy birthday!

Luken Joseph D'Souza celebrates his 1st birthday on 8th April. Best wishes Luken, from your family and uncle Mustansir



Congratulations



Mona Abbas Mohammad of the Pakistan School, Rumaithiya receives a prize for coming first in her class, K.G. 11-c, from Dr Tahir, and the school principal Mrs Saleha Rahim.

MUSTANGS — the wild horses of the American prairie — are usually small and tough-looking. But the Pacing White Mustang was tall and fine-boned. His thick mane hung down to his knees. And his tail swished against the ground as he grazed across the grasslands of central Texas.

One thing more set him apart from the other wild horses. From the tips of his ears to the end of that long tail he was pure white.

He was a natural leader too. Most stallions had a family of about fifteen or twenty mares. That was all they could control. But the Pacing White Mustang led more than fifty!

It wasn't easy to keep such a family safe. There were always other stallions waiting nearby to steal his mares away.

Men meant danger too. Many of them wanted to capture the big white horse. They wanted to tame him and tame the wildness out of him forever.

But the stallion was too smart to be trapped. And he paced too fast to be caught. (Pacing is a special, very smooth way of running. Most horses gallop when they want to go fast.)

Over the years, one cowboy after another tried to trap the Pacing White Mustang or chase him down. Stories of his escapes were told in bunk-houses all over the Southwest.

One morning a cowboy rode by. The Mustang noticed him. But he was still far away, so the horse went on grazing. Suddenly

the cowboy whirled. Now he was racing straight for the Mustang!

The big white horse knew just what to do. He circled round and round his mares and foals, crowding them together into a tight bunch. Then he began pacing south, with his family close behind.

The Mustang paced steadily for hours. He wasn't tired. But toward the end of the day he began to move more slowly. He was sure he was safe. No horse and rider had ever followed him this far before.

He glanced back, just to make sure. And for a moment his smooth pace broke. He was still being chased!

One man had never been able to run the wild horse down. And people knew that the stallion always headed south when he was chased. So they made a plan. One cowboy would ride behind him for about thirty miles. Then he would meet a second cowboy who had been sent ahead to wait. This man would ride on until he came to where a third man was waiting — fresh and ready to pick up the chase.

There were twelve men and horses in all — twelve links in a chain stretching south for hundreds of miles. Surely not even the Pacing White Mustang could escape them all!

One thing was certain. He was going to try. Soon the sun would go down. Always before the Mus-

tang had been able to escape at night. He was a wild creature of the prairies, and he moved fast in the dark. Most of the ranch-bred horses that chased him weren't sure-footed enough to do that.

But the men who were chasing him had planned well. As the sun sank, a full moon rose to take its place in the sky. Its warm yellow glow lit the prairie for miles around.

All through the night the Mustang paced ahead of his enemies. "He looked like a ship," one of the men said later. "A ghostly white ship sailing through a sea of grass."

As the sun rose next morning the Mustang looked back. A horse and rider were still there! Would he ever lose this

terrible enemy who never seemed to tire?

For many miles the Mustang's family had been able to keep up with him. But one by one they had tired and dropped behind — first the foals and then the mares. Now he was running alone.

His eyes were glazed. His white coat was caked with dust. His chest heaved painfully with every breath he took. Even his great strength was finally fading. Still something in him cried keep moving.

On and on he paced until, by the edge of the Rio River in South Texas, the last cowboy gave up the chase. He pulled up and watched as the Mustang swam to the other side and paced out of sight. "The last thing I saw was that white tail of his waving

good-bye," he said later. No one was chasing him now. But still the Mustang kept moving south.

Every few miles he stopped to eat a few mouthfuls of grass and sniff the air for danger. Then he would start pacing slowly again. He was almost to the Mexican border when he stopped once more. He lifted his head and took a deep sniff of air. He smelled no danger. He did smell something else though. Water!

The big horse snorted with pleasure. Quickly he followed the smell of water into a nearby canyon.

The Pacing White Mustang had not smelled an enemy. But a cowboy from a nearby ranch had seen him. The cowboy slipped behind some tall bushes. The wind was blowing his special human smell away from the horse.

The cowboy had never seen the Pacing White Mustang. But he had heard of him many times. "Yes!" he thought as he looked at the beautiful animal. "It's the White Mustang!" And the cowboy smiled — for he knew that when a horse is full of water, he can't run very fast.

At last the stallion came out of the canyon. Quickly the man whirled his long lasso into the air. It sailed toward the exhausted horse — and the noose settled around his powerful neck!

The Pacing White Mustang screamed with fury. He reared and bucked and

hurled himself away from the lasso. He pawed the air with his hoofs. But he couldn't get rid of that terrible rope!

Suddenly he wheeled and ran straight toward the cowboy. The look in his eye was all too plain to read. But the cowboy was lucky. There was a tree nearby. Somehow he got behind it. He kept the tree between himself and the furious stallion. And the tree served as a kind of hitching-post. Round and round its trunk the cowboy wrapped his end of the lasso. The Pacing White Mustang was caught!

The cowboy raced to his ranch and came back with two other cowboys. They too tied ropes around the raging stallion. Then — screaming and fighting every foot of the way — he was dragged back to the ranch.

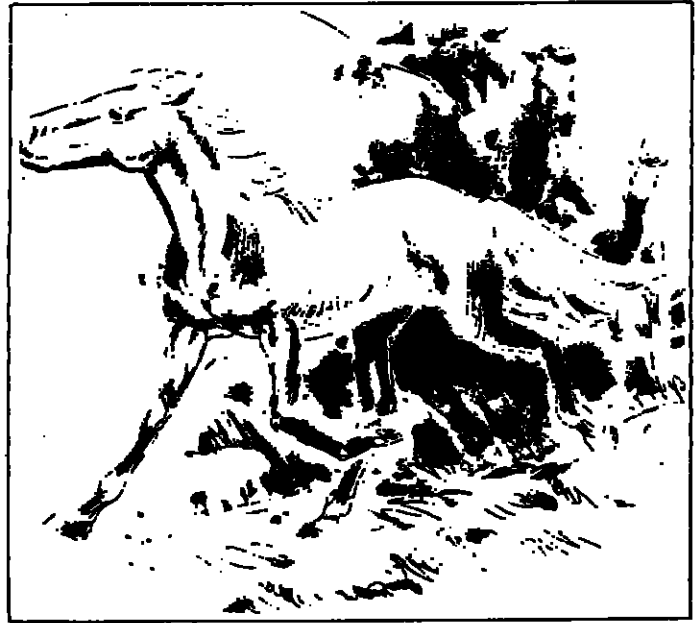
The cowboys wrestled him into a small fenced-in corral. And suddenly the horse stopped fighting. He seemed to know he had been beaten at last.

The men brought him a big bundle of grass and a barrel of well water. The horse turned his head. He would not eat or drink.

"He'll eat when he gets hungry enough," one of the cowboys said.

But for nine days and nights the Pacing White Mustang stood still as a statue. He never took a bite of the juicy grass. He never swallowed a drop of the sweet well water. And on the tenth morning he lay down on his side and died.

The horse who loved freedom so much had escaped after all.



Search for a lake

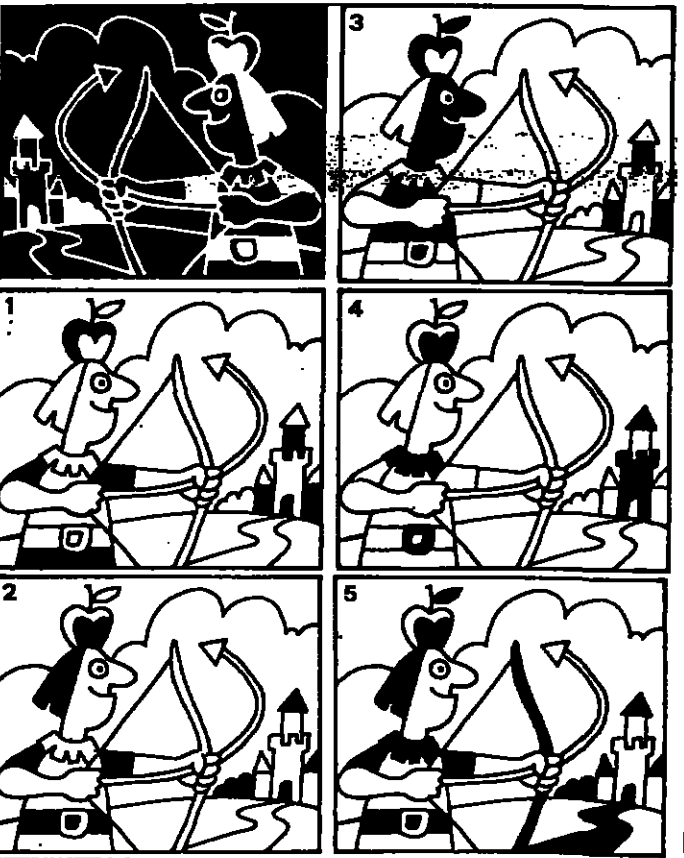
Listed below are forty-nine lakes of the Lake District of Great Britain.

Angle (Tarn)	Easedale (Tarn)	Over (Tarn)
Beacon (Tarn)	Elter (Water)	Rydal (Water)
Bigland (Tarn)	Ennerdale (Water)	Scoat (Tarn)
Blea (Tarn)	Esthwaite (Water)	Seathwaite (Tarn)
Blitham (Tarn)	Goat's (Water)	Small (Water)
Blind (Tarn)	Grasmere	Sprinkling (Tarn)
Boretree (Tarn)	Grisedale (Tarn)	Stickle (Tarn)
Brothers (Water)	Hayeswater	Styhead (Tarn)
Burnmoor (Tarn)	Kentmere	The Tarns
Buttermere	Knipe (Tarn)	Thirlmere
Codale (Tarn)	Levers (Water)	Three Dubs (Tarn)
Conistone (Water)	Loughrigg (Tarn)	Ullswater
Crummock (Water)	Low (Tarn)	Wast (Water)
Derwent (Water)	Loweswater	Watendlath (Tarn)
Devon (Water)	Moss Eccles (Tarn)	Windermere
Dock (Tarn)	Little Langdale (Tarn)	
Bassenthwaite (Water)		

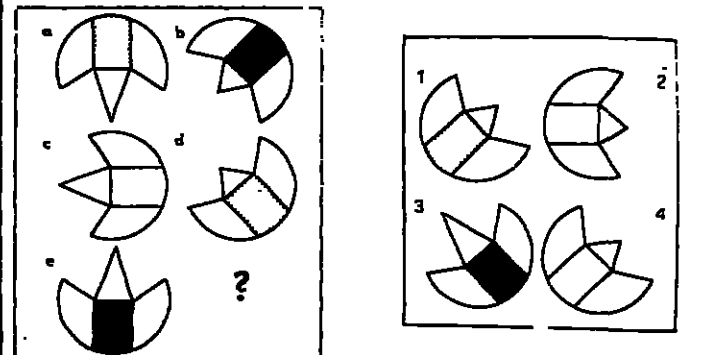
LOUGHRIGGEREMLRHTU
VIGNILKNIRPSPWYKRVA
RETOUTTPEAILVUXBADEN
SKKTAOTMYSNSMAHLELBD
ESCOLSRMMKOEJCRBETN
LWCOVERNXEQZMDWEAVUI
CSWXDELADRENNEAESELL
CYHNEZDAPEYANCTLSL
EOIAKRDONLLTOOEAESS
SWNLYAEWCGSNQTNORWN
SJZIVEIMINDMIHDETHAR
OBBCSXSBRAGRLSHPTA
MCARETAWSEWOLEAAWDET
ROIUSBODAHTEAFETEAARE
YDFMEFANTTETNDHSIESH
DAAMGCEADMEGUUZZJTHNT
ALUOTGEERTEROBKLEYEK
LEACESTHWAITESEOOTJD
CTHKENTMEREELKCITSFQ
SREHTORBURNMOORRLGLH

Arrow-minded

Which of the five numbered prints has been developed from the negative?



It's logic Which of the four numbered figures logically fits in place of the question mark?



Asia

Where the dugong lives

This strange, seal-like mammal lives along the coast of the Red Sea, the Indian Ocean and in the China seas. A long time ago fishermen who saw the dugong thought that this animal looked rather like a woman and behaved strangely like a human being, shedding real tears and whimpering and sobbing when caught. The fishermen's tales about the dugong were soon spread round the world and people kept adding more details until the myth was born that the dugong had the head and body of a woman and a long fish-tail. Perhaps this was how all the old beliefs about mermaids and sirens began. In olden days sailors believed that mermaids sang sweetly to seamen on passing ships and tried to lure the ships on to dangerous rocks.

In actual fact the dugong belongs to the order of animals known as Sirenia. It is from 2 to 3 metres in length and browses in small groups in

the shallow waters of bays and inlets. When feeding underwater it surfaces every five to ten minutes for a supply of air. People on the coast often hunt the dugong with spears or harpoons for its flesh is considered a delicacy. Oil is obtained from its blubber.

Where the Chinese alligator

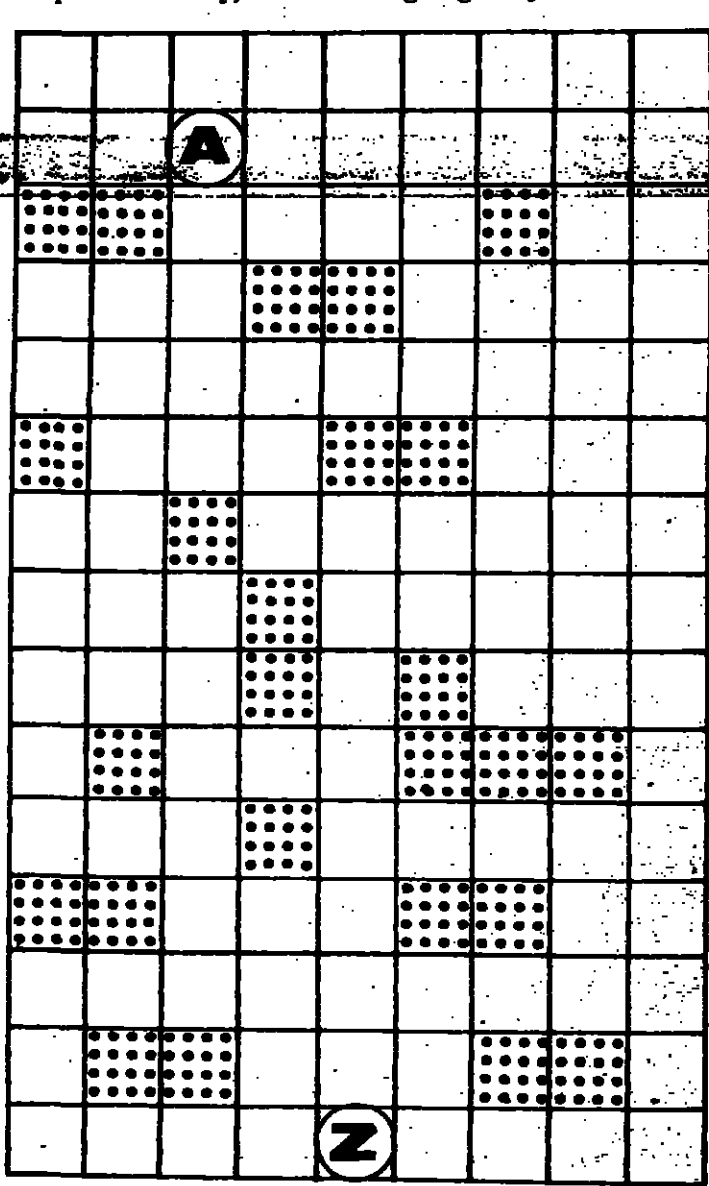
Many alligators live in the great rivers that flow across China and are especially common in the lower reaches of the Yangtze Kiang. These alligators look different from the crocodile because they have shorter jaws. The fourth tooth of the Chinese alligator's upper jaw is also large and sticks out when the animal has its mouth closed.

The American alligator which lives in the Mississippi River grows to about 6 metres in length, but the Chinese alligator is rarely longer than one and a half metres. It is too timid to attack large animals and presents no danger to human beings. It prefers, instead, to catch fish, water-birds and small mammals.



Easy A to Z

Can you go from A to Z passing through all the white squares once only, without moving diagonally?



Cat's Cradle penetration

The illusion:

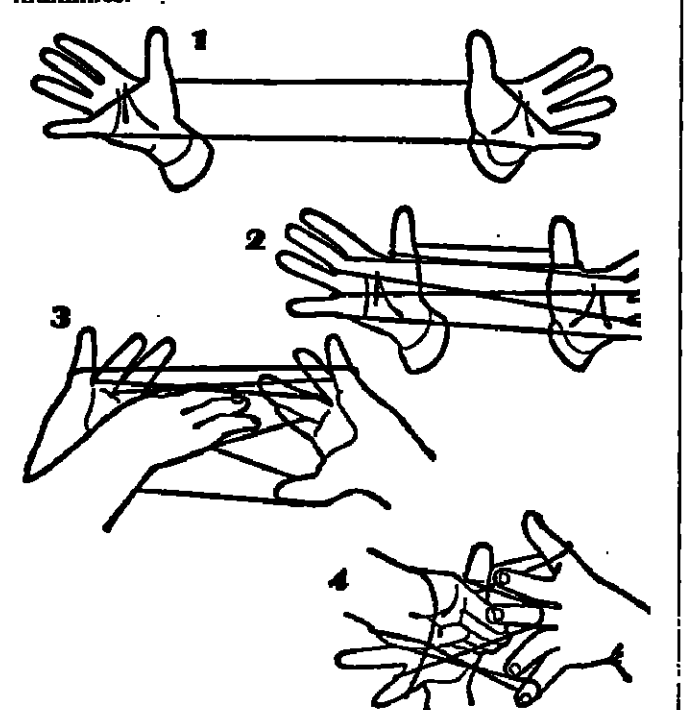
You make a Cat's Cradle, and have a friend put her arm through the centre. You pull on the string, and it catches her in a loop. Leaving your friend caught, you again make the Cradle: she places her arm in the centre, and you pull. However, this time the string penetrates her arm!

The trick:

Tie a piece of string (at least four feet long) into a loop. Stretch the loop between your two thumbs, palms facing one another. Then stick your little fingers up into the loop as well. The string will now be stretched across your palms, and around the back of each thumb and little finger (1). To make the Cradle, bring the palms of the two hands together, slide the tip of the right middle finger under the loop around the left palm, separate the hands about six inches, then slide the left middle finger under the loop on the right palm. Separate the hands until the Cradle becomes taut (2).

Turn the tips of your fingers towards you and have your friend put her hand UP through the centre of the Cradle (3). Drop all your fingers except your thumbs out of the loops and pull. You will have caught your friend's wrist. Don't let her free herself. Keep her in that loop, and make another Cradle. This time turn your fingertips toward her and have her put her imprisoned hand DOWN through the centre (4). Drop all the loops except

around your thumbs, and when you pull this time the string will apparently penetrate her arm. "Egyptian children used to practice this trick on their mummies."



Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS

THE OLDEST ARMED BODY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IS THE QUEEN'S BODY GUARD OF THE YEOMAN OF THE GUARD FORMED IN 1485.

THE ROYAL HOSPITAL WAS FOUNDED BY CHARLES II IN 1682 FOR OLD AND DISABLED SOLDIERS. 'OLDEST SEA PENSIONER' THE OLDEST OF THESE MEN, BASED ONLY ON THE EVIDENCE OF HIS TOMBSTONE, WAS 111 YEARS OLD WILLIAM HISELAND (D 6 AUG 1820, B 7 FEB 1732).

PROBABLY THE YOUNGEST ENLISTMENT IN THE 20TH CENTURY WAS OF WILLIAM FREDERICK PRICE (6-7 JUNE 1917), WHO WAS ENLISTED INTO THE ARMY AT ALDERSHOT ON 23RD MAY 1903, AGED 11 YEARS 356 DAYS.

THE LARGEST VEIN IN THE HUMAN BODY IS THE INFERIOR VENA CAVA, WHICH RETURNS MOST OF THE BLOOD FROM THE BODY BELOW THE LEVEL OF THE HEART.

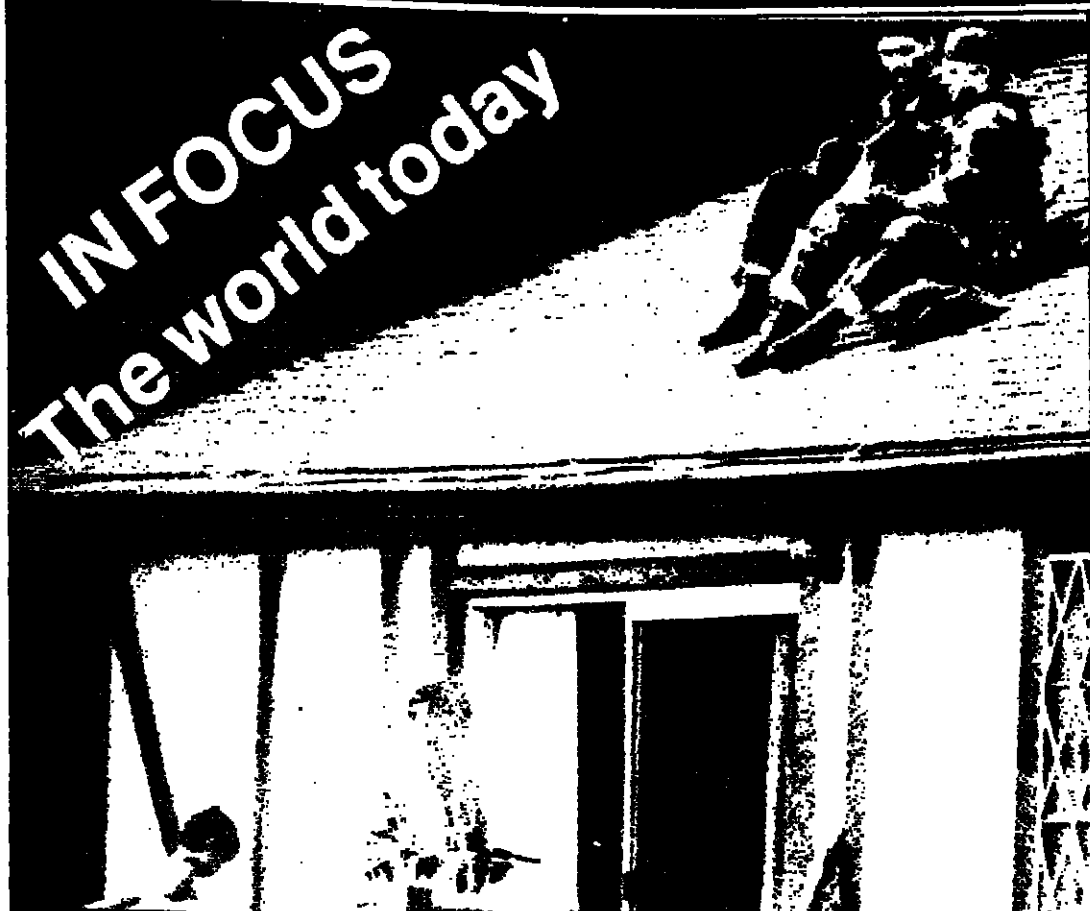
THE WORLD'S MOST PROLIFIC BLOOD DONOR IS ALLEN DOSTER, A SELF-EMPLOYED BEAUTICIAN WHO HAS, SINCE 1945, UP TO APRIL 1986, DONATED 1840 US PINTS OF BLOOD AT ROOSEVELT PARK MEMORIAL, NEW YORK.

CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL REPORTED IN DECEMBER 1982 THE CASE OF A CONFUSED BUT CONSISTENT 25-YEAR-OLD FEMALE WHO WAS SHOWN TO HAVE A BLOOD ALCOHOL LEVEL OF 1510 MG PER 100 MG NEARLY 10 TIMES THE LEGAL DRIVING LIMIT WHICH IS 80 MG OF ALCOHOL PER 100 MG OF BLOOD.

هذه الامثلة

IN FOCUS

The world today



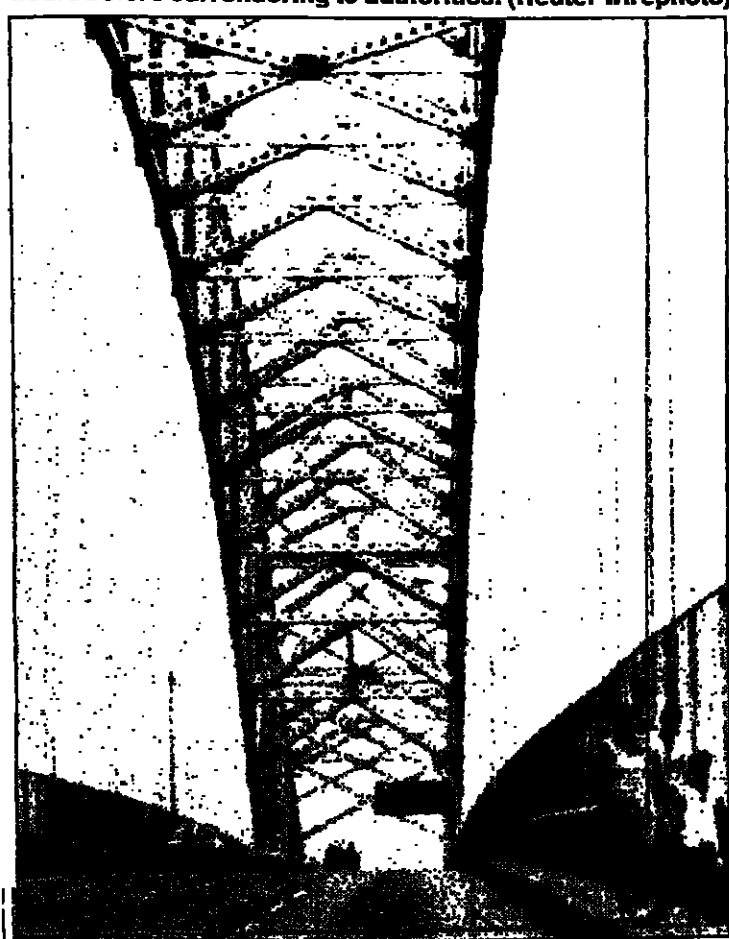
GREGORY LUCAS, 40, of Orlando, holding revolver, talks with his 10-year-old son Christopher, left, on their porch as members of the Florida Seminole County Sheriff's SWAT team sit atop the roof. Lucas held his son hostage on Sunday for more than five hours before surrendering to authorities. (Reuter wirephoto)



TIBETAN spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, greets supporters at London airport yesterday on his arrival from India for a 10-day pastoral visit. (Reuter wirephoto)



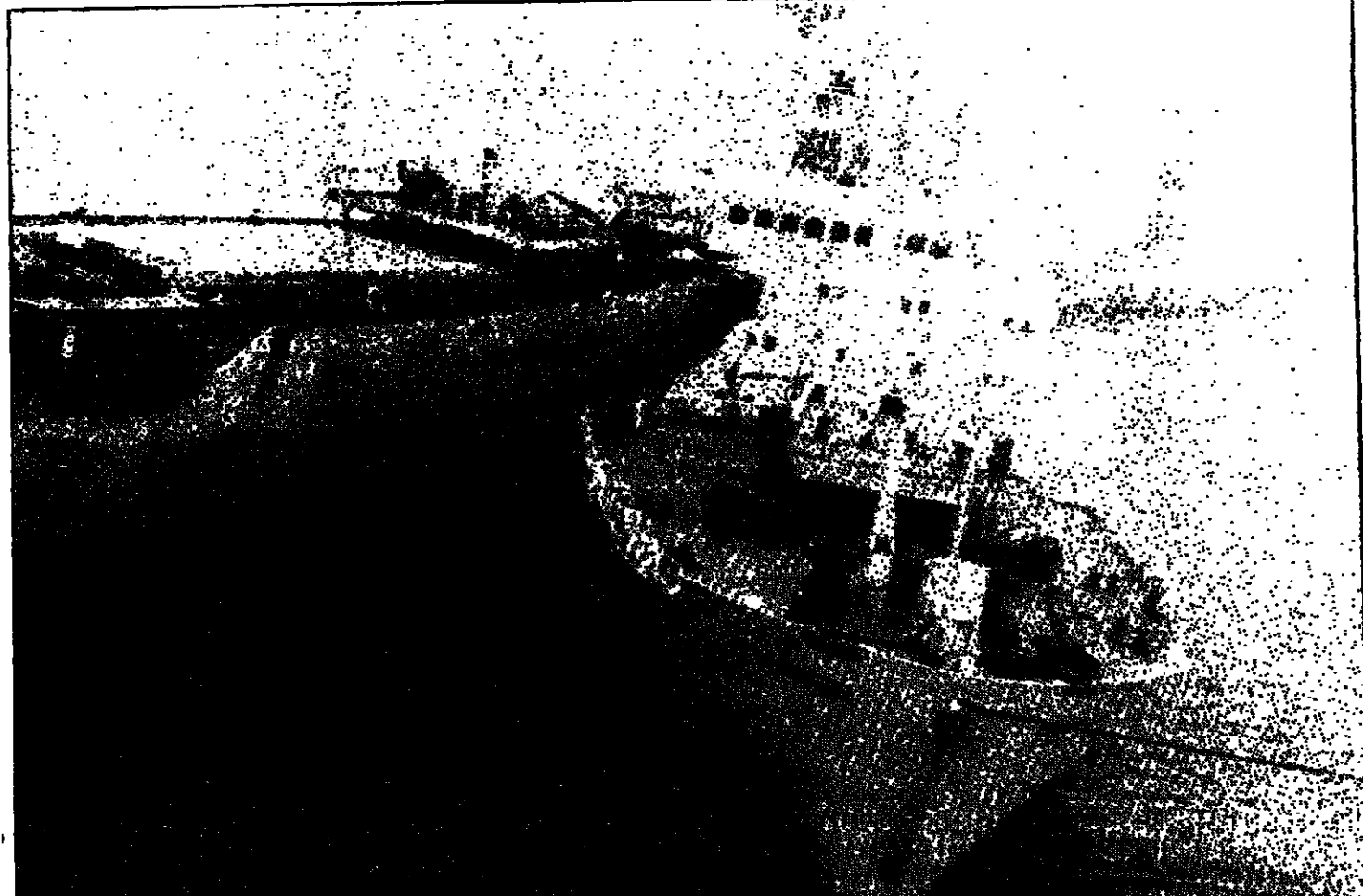
MEMBERS of the Washington Toho Koto Society prepare to play a musical selection during ceremonies marking the beginning of the annual Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington on Sunday. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE bridge over the Panama Canal looks deserted on Sunday during the holy week celebrations. (Reuter wirephoto)



RESIDENTS of an East German town use a makeshift wooden bridge to cross the flooded streets yesterday. The swollen River Elbe has stopped rising waters but flood levels are expected to persist. (Reuter wirephoto)



THREE people were injured yesterday during a collision of the Indonesian container vessel 'Mataram' with the East German refrigerator ship 'Heinrich Keine' on the River Elbe next to the northern West German city of Brunsbuttel.



TWO roller-skating youths try out some acrobatics to a large audience along the promenade by Lake Zurich on Sunday. Warm temperatures brought many people out into the springtime weather. (Reuter wirephoto)



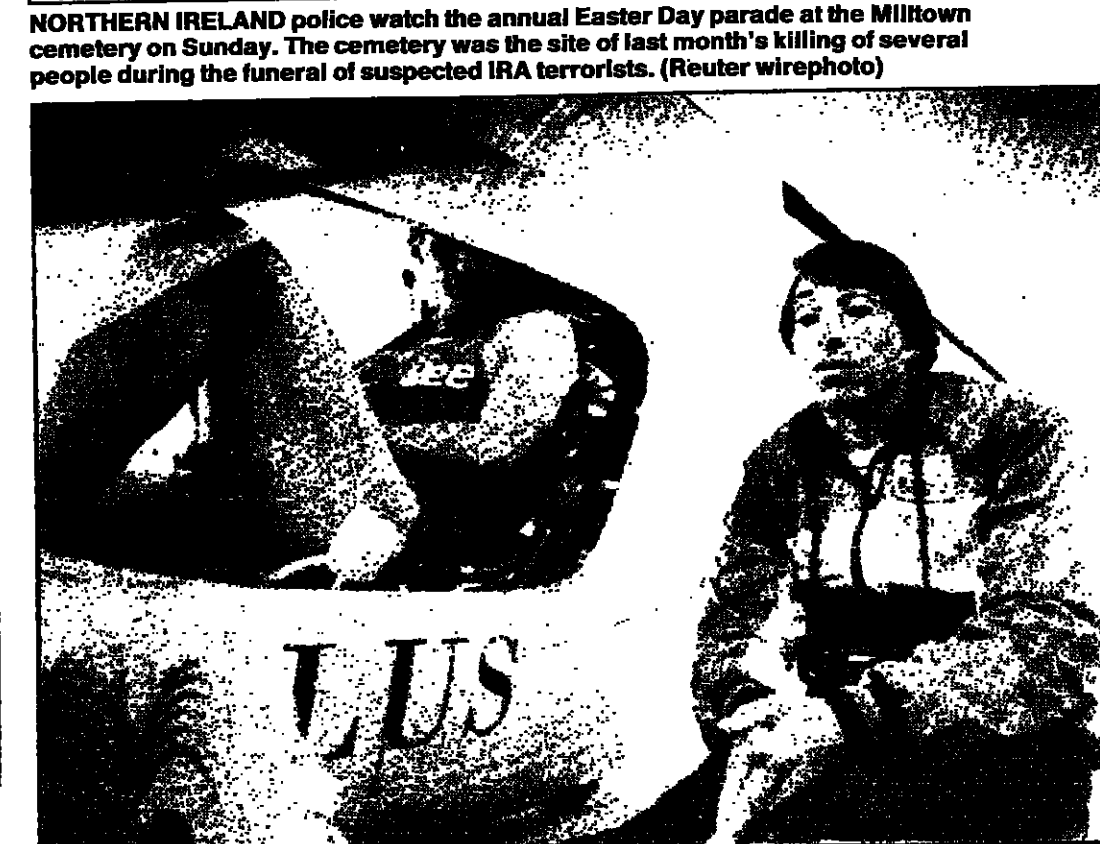
NORTHERN IRELAND police watch the annual Easter Day parade at the Milltown cemetery on Sunday. The cemetery was the site of last month's killing of several people during the funeral of suspected IRA terrorists. (Reuter wirephoto)



GOVERNMENT troops hunting for escaped Philippine coup leader Colonel Gregorio Honasan keep a close watch during a raid on the vacation house of opposition leader Juan Ponce Enrile in nearby Batangas province south of Manila on Sunday. The raid followed reports that Honasan, Enrile's former security chief was hiding in the house but soldiers found no trace of him. (Reuter wirephoto)



ONE of Ian Botham's elephants sits on the steps of the 'Square House' built in 218 BC in Nimes, southern France. British cricket champion Ian Botham started a walk with three elephants on March 30 from Perpignan to Turin, Italy, where he is scheduled to arrive on April 19. This walk is organised to fight against leukemia and follows the same trail of Hannibal in 218 BC. (Reuter wirephoto)



ERIK SCHMIDT (right), one of the five pilots to fly Daedalus, and Frank Scioscia, in the cockpit, the pilot for yesterday's attempt to break the world distance record for human-powered flight in Greece, look disappointed after the postponement of the flight once again, due to bad weather conditions. (Reuter wirephoto)



VICE-PRESIDENT George Bush meets with clowns at the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey circus on Sunday during an Easter outing with his wife and grandchildren. (Reuter wirephoto)

BUSINESS & FINANCE

The world economy after the crash

How Black Monday shook world's equity markets

FIVE months have now passed since Black Monday shook the world's equity markets. That is not long enough to be able to grasp all the consequences for the world economy, but it does give us sufficient distance to be able to see things in perspective. Briefly, the current situation may be said to have four positive aspects.

First:

The central banks of the Western nations have reacted correctly in this crisis. They have provided the economy and the financial markets with additional liquidity. Thanks to their support, there has been a general downturn in interest rates, which has resulted in some substantial advances on the bond markets. It has also helped to buoy up the level of business activity.

Second:

Private consumption, which accounts for about two-thirds of the national product, has not collapsed.

Recently published indicators and surveys of consumer sentiment point to nothing worse than a slowdown affecting different countries to varying degrees.

Third:

The inflationary fears which by mid-October were becoming rife, and which contributed to the sharp rise in interest rates in the spring and summer, have eased off now owing to the prospect of reduced growth.

Fourth:

The budget discussions in the US have produced their first results. It would be unrealistic to expect a dramatic cut in the budget deficit one year before the presidential elections, and any radical action would be undesirable from the point of view of the business cycle.

These trends give grounds for optimism. However, a storm on the scale of the one we have just witnessed does not pass over without leaving any damage. On the negative side the following three features are observable.

The stock markets are still characterised by a highly volatile

The stock market crash and the collapse of the dollar have clouded the prospects for the world economy. However, we are unlikely to be heading for a recession. With inflation under control, there is no immediate danger of soaring interest rates. The great threat would stem from a breakdown in international economic cooperation.

and changeable mood. Hence, nervousness remains widespread.

Despite the concerted interest rates cuts at the end of November, international cooperation in the field of economic policy is still not running smoothly. Instead of steering the course of economic events, the politicians are themselves being steered by events. At a time of uncertainty, when the need for leeway is particularly great, this is a worrying development.

The rapid decline of the dollar is worsening the hard currency countries' ability to compete on the international marketplace. What makes the situation all the more acute is that most of the European nations are also having to contend with high unemployment rates.

Is the world economy heading for a major slump, or will it come through with just a light bruising? In 1988 world economic growth is indeed likely to be lower than in the past year, and also lower than had originally been forecast. American households will cut back their expenditure owing to their diminished assets, an inadequate saving rate, an already high level of debt, and their relatively pronounced dependence on income from equity holdings.

The outlook for European and Japanese households is less gloomy because of rising real incomes, though even here consumer spending seems set to taper off slightly.

Capital expenditure by industry will also begin to flag, as cor-

porate financing has become more difficult owing to the stock market crash. A slump in investment activity is not, however, on the cards: in the US, high capacity utilisation is forcing new investments, while European and Japanese companies are having to streamline their operations in order to stand up to the competitive pressures imposed on them by the appreciation of their currencies against the dollar.

Exporters based in hard currency countries will be squeezed, while American traders will benefit from the softer dollar. Another steep dive in its value would worsen the business climate in the hard currency countries and spoil the outlook for American exporters.

Improvement

There are two main scenarios in which the dollar exchange rate would start plunging again: if there were only a very slow improvement in the balance of trade; or if American monetary policy were to become strongly expansive in relation to the policies of the other leading Western nations.

Regarding the first point: owing to a fall-off in imports and to a pick-up in exports, there is a good chance of an improvement in America's balance of trade.

However, the trade deficit is so huge that any reduction is bound to be a gradual and unspectacular one.

In this respect, the financial markets should scale down any unrealistic expectations.

On the other hand, the rising

International economic outlook	Real GNP		Consumer prices		Current account	
	1987	1988	1987	1988	1987	1988
	percentage change from previous year		percentage change from previous year		US\$ bn	
United States	2.9	2.2	3.6	5.0	-158.0	-140.0
Canada	3.6	2.8	4.4	4.5	-6.0	-6.5
Japan	3.3	3.5	-0.2	1.3	87.0	70.0
Australia	2.5	2.5	8.5	6.0	-9.0	-9.0
Germany	1.5	1.5	0.3	1.0	45.0	40.0
France	1.7	1.5	3.3	3.0	1.0	0.0
United Kingdom	3.5	2.5	4.2	4.5	-3.0	-6.0
Italy	2.7	2.0	4.8	5.3	-2.0	-4.5
Spain	4.5	3.3	5.2	4.5	2.0	-1.0
Netherlands	2.0	1.5	-0.6	0.8	2.0	1.0
Switzerland	2.1	1.5	1.5	2.2	17.5	8.0
Total (13 industrialized countries)	2.6	2.2	2.8	3.5	-33.0	-46.0

saving rate is making it easier to finance the budget deficit from domestic American sources, which means that the need to raise funds abroad should diminish.

The pressure that the trade imbalances are putting on the dollar should, therefore, gradually ease.

As to the second point, it could be argued that the imminent slowdown in the US economy will prompt the Fed to loosen the monetary reins once again while in the hard currency countries the already low level of interest rates, coupled with strong money supply growth in recent months, has left little leeway for further cuts.

The narrowing in the interest gap would then weaken the dollar significantly. This argument, however, is not convincing.

If anything, it is European hard currency countries which—in view of the worsened outlook for exports—are beginning to see the need for cranking up their flagging domestic economies.

Recovery

At present, the US economy is not showing any signs of weakness that would warrant remedial action on the monetary front.

A recovery is in progress across a wide spectrum of industries—from machine-tools, aircraft, optical and medical in-

struments to computers and electronics.

Even if the inventory cycle causes the business climate to cool down for a while, this will hardly prompt the monetary authorities to steer an excessively lenient course.

In the light of these trends, the dollar should soon stabilise—albeit slightly below its present level—and any further depreciation in 1988 should prove less drastic than what we witnessed in 1987.

If these various elements are summed up, the following general outlook emerges:

A worldwide recession, let alone a depression comparable to that of the 1930s, is improbable. The US economy should grow by about 2 per cent in real terms in 1988.

Inflation

The corresponding figures for Germany and France should reach about 1.5 per cent and those for Italy and the United Kingdom about 2.5 per cent. Japan will be a locomotive of growth in the coming year.

The Japanese authorities have been helping vigorously to stimulate business activity. This has injected new life into the domestic economy and has virtually cancelled out the dampening effects of dwindling exports.

Owing to this growth outlook, inflation rates in the hard

currency countries are unlikely to rise appreciably, and should not greatly exceed 2 per cent in the course of the year. The outlook is less rosy in the US and the UK, where both exchange rate and cyclical trends will help to fuel inflation.

But even in these countries some counter-inflationary factors are at work: commodity prices, and the oil price in particular, are still weak.

Furthermore, pay settlements in the United States have remained moderate.

Under these circumstances, interest rates are unlikely to start soaring again soon. In some European countries there is still some short-term scope for a fall-off in money market rates and bond yields.

In time, however, most central banks will probably start mopping up some of the additional liquidity arising from the stock market crash in order to head off the threat of inflation.

This could well bring about a renewed firming of interest rates in the second half of 1988. However, there is not likely to be any marked tightening of US monetary policy before the presidential elections.

While the scenario sketched out here is the most probable one, it cannot by any means be regarded as certain.

If, in the near future, the dollar were to fall again dramatically, or if the stock market were to plunge again, or if the United States were to slip into a real recession, or if there were a major breakdown in international economic policy, then the outlook would be less rosy.

It is surely the last-mentioned factor that poses the greatest threat. The policymakers sought, however, to have a sufficiently responsible and rational attitude towards economic policy to prevent a development that would harm their own interests.

If this were not the case then the impact on the world economy would be great indeed.

Provided by Credit Suisse Bulletin.

World Business Summary

Indonesia to reform contract tendering

JAKARTA, April 4, (Reuters): The new brooms in Indonesia's revamped cabinet are ready to sweep, and a newspaper says one of their first targets is a powerful team in charge of government purchase contracts. Officials will soon announce that the body empowered to award all state purchase contracts worth over \$300,000 will be dissolved, the respected weekly Tempo news-magazine said in this week's issue. Government departments and agencies will be allowed to make their own purchases in the future, Tempo said, quoting informed government sources.

The team, the steering committee for the procurement of government goods and services, was set up by presidential decree in 1980 after the government became alarmed at the lack of control and book-keeping standards by government departments during the 1970s heyday of Indonesia's oil boom. But critics have charged that the centralised body had become what Tempo called a "superwarlord," and was favouring a select group of businessmen with sweet government projects.

The removal of the controversial committee would be the first in a widely-expected series of reforms by the new cabinet announced by President Suharto earlier this month. Half of the cabinet was replaced.

\$36 billion committed to renewable energy sources

UNITED NATIONS, (Opecna): A new UN report says about \$36 billion was reported as commitments to new and renewable energy sources between 1980 and 1987, with conventional large-scale hydropower accounting for almost 74 per cent.

The report, now before the committee on the development and utilisation of new and renewable sources of energy, says of the total, \$8 billion was channelled through the United Nations system. It calls for public sector support for funding the development of new and renewable energy sources, adding that widespread utilisation is achieved through involvement of the private sector in investment and commercialisation of applications.

The committee is also expected to consider ways of mobilising financial resources to implement the Nairobi programme of action leading to "an orderly and peaceful energy transition from the present international economy, based primarily on hydrocarbons, to one based increasingly on new and renewable sources in a manner which is socially suitable, economically viable and environmentally sustainable." Attaching particular calls for large-scale afforestation, improved utilisation of draught animal power and expand use of such energy sources as hydropower, geothermal resources, wind and solar energy.

In proposals that resources for that purpose be channelled through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the development fund for Exploration of Natural Resources, the Interim Arrangements for Science and Technology and the UNDP energy account.

The UN report also calls for the establishment of an international network of centres to speed up the development and use of energy from the sun, water, wind and other new and renewable energy sources.

Afeso to re-admit Egypt

MUSCAT, April 4, (Reuters): The 21-nation Arab League Economic and Social Development (ASESD) decided today to re-admit Egypt after a nine-year suspension imposed when Cairo signed a peace treaty with Israel, the Omani News Agency reported. It said the Kuwait-based Afeso, which helps finance development projects in Arab states, announced the decision in a statement. Eleven Arab states have restored diplomatic relations with Egypt since an Arab League summit in Amman last November. Most of the Arab world cut ties over Cairo's 1979 peace treaty with Israel. Finance ministers from 16 Arab states are in Oman for a two-day meeting expected to finalise a \$500-million plan to boost trade between their countries.

Kuwait's Finance Minister Jassem Mohammed Al Khorafi was quoted here yesterday as saying Kuwait supported the revival of Egypt's membership revival of Egypt's membership in Arab Monetary Funds, noting that such a move would be normal and legal.

The case is especially so because Egypt has already been reintroduced to the Inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation, said Khorafi in an interview published in a Kuwaiti newspaper. The minister was interviewed before leaving for Muscat where he is attending the meeting of five Arab Monetary and Development Funds. He said Egypt's role in the Arab funds could be very helpful and hoped that other Arab countries would appreciate and cooperate for the re-admission of Egypt to those institutions.

On the performance of Arab funds, the minister said they were generating valuable revenues and virtually financing themselves.

Reagan urged to sign trade bill

WASHINGTON, April 4, (AP): Senate majority leader Robert C. Byrd yesterday urged President Ronald Reagan to sign comprehensive trade legislation worked out by congressional negotiators this week. "This is not the time for a veto," Byrd said in the weekly Democratic radio address. "The trade bill is a strong comprehensive bill that helps American workers help themselves."

Byrd complained that "the President has done nothing but cry protectionism and wave his veto pen" as the ability of the United States to compete has eroded. He said the Democrats' "goal has been a bill that the President will sign," adding, "We have extended our hand in cooperation."

"The President may not understand what this bill means to the American worker... I think you do," Byrd said in urging his listeners to write to the White House expressing their support for the legislation.

Under a compromise worked out by House and Senate negotiators on Thursday, the US trade representative would have the authority to impose import controls on the goods of nations who violate trade agreements. The President could waive the tariffs if he thought their cost would outweigh the benefit. Presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater on Friday renewed the threat of a veto by saying that the bill unreasonably ties the president's hands and that the administration has "grave reservations" about it.

Aden to export oil in '89

NICOSIA, Cyprus, April 4, (AP): Marxist South Yemen will become an oil exporting country next year after the development of newly discovered oilfields under a Moscow-Aden agreement, an authoritative oil newsletter reported today.

The weekly Middle East Economic Survey said the agreement was signed last week during a visit by two Soviet ministers to Aden. It did not name the officials.

Under the agreement, MEES said, Soviet firms would develop the Iyad West and Amal oilfields in the Shabwa region. It also provides for the construction of a 170-200 kilometre (106-124 mile) pipeline to be completed within one year. The pipeline, stretching from the fields to Bir Ali, on the Gulf of Aden, initially will carry 50,000-70,000 barrels of oil a day, increasing gradually to 100,000 barrels a day, MEES said.

The eventual throughput capacity of the line will rise to 500,000 barrels a day, it said. The development of the fields and the construction of the pipeline will be financed by loans provided by the Soviet Union. The agreement also permits the sub-contracting of Western and Arab firms for the construction work and the supply of necessary equipment, the report said.

A number of international oil firms are negotiating for concession awards on a production sharing basis in the North Shabwa region, which has become a focus of keen interest among oil explorers, MEES said.

Dubai to start commercial storage for oil products spot trading

DUBAI, April 4, (AP): Spot trading in petroleum products, backed by commercial storage, is to begin at the free zone area of this southern Gulf emirate, Dubai's English-language daily Gulf News reported today.

The Star Energy Corp. Ltd. of the neighbouring emirate of Abu Dhabi is set to begin operations as the first independent trader in oil products in the Gulf with its own facilities, the paper said.

The independent storage facility which includes eight tanks with total capacity of 310,000 cubic metres (11 million cubic feet) is expected to be ready soon. Operations are scheduled to begin by the end of the year.

Project

The Dubai project will be different from others in the Gulf that are limited in scope as most of the storage facilities are either government owned or dedicated to oil companies.

Star Energy Corp. Ltd. has been trading on the international markets for years but will now provide the Gulf with its first independent and storage facility.

The location is ideal because of loading facilities from berths at a dedicated quay at Dubai's Jebel Ali port, the biggest man-made harbour in the region. Civil works for the pipeline network have started and the facility would be one of the most modern in the world, the paper said.

The location of the Star Energy Corp. Ltd. facility is expedient geographically as it lies close to India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. For Western buyers who deal with Singapore, the Jebel Ali project would provide a much shorter shipping time.

Operations

Independent storage operations are now becoming more popular as spot trade in products is gaining ground. One of the largest independent operator Van Ommen now has a joint venture with the Port Authority of Singapore which has added 20,000 cubic metres (706,000 cubic feet) of tankage and pipes for petrochemicals at a cost of \$20 million.

Another big operator Paktank also has a joint venture with the Singapore government, but this is mainly in shape of floating storage through a converted ultra large crude carriers with a capacity of 300,000 cubic metres (10.5 million cubic feet).

Book from best-selling economist sees gloom, then boom

NEW YORK, April 4, (Reuters): Consider the following hair-raising fictional scenario: the Dow Jones Industrial Average sinks to a dismal 1,095, the dollar is worth a paltry Japanese yen and the largest US banks are on the brink of insolvency...

The plot of a financial thriller? Unfortunately not.

Rather, this is precisely the scenario put forth in "What's next? How to prepare yourself for the crash of '89 and profit in the 1990's", the newest non-fiction offering of economist and best-selling financial novelist Paul Erdman.

Erdman, known for fictional accounts of financial disasters such as "the crash of '79" and "the panic of '89", argues in the new book the capitalist world is heading for a sharp recession next year—but unprecedented prosperity in the 1990s.

The days of the Dow around 2,000 points and the dollar

around 125 yen are numbered, he suggests.

"What's next?" hinges on what Erdman, a Swiss-trained economist with a doctorate from the University of Basel, calls his "convergence theory", in which six economic events come together to bring on economic chaos.

The theory suggests a downturn in US consumer spending will cause retail sales to slow, pushing the United States into recession and bringing a cascade of corporate bankruptcies.

Japan and Europe will quickly follow America into recession, Erdman said, eventually triggering loan defaults among large Latin American debtors such as Brazil, Argentina, Peru.

Meanwhile, an "exogenous" event—an end to the Gulf war, for example—leads to surging world oil output and tumbling oil prices. This will force such oil producers as Mexico, Venezuela

and Nigeria to default on their massive debts.

Several months after completing the book, Erdman remains confident his scenario is playing out on schedule. Nevertheless, when interviewed he downplays his predictions.

"All I'm suggesting is there will be a recession next year, and we may have a little financial crisis going along with it," Erdman told Reuters.

Crisis

Asked whether there is any way to avoid this "little financial crisis," he said, "the die is cast."

Erdman concedes that the anticipated recession could be delayed by certain circumstances, but is convinced it will happen and happen soon.

"The onset of recession could be postponed by two things: if the consumer keeps on spending, keeps on borrowing, beyond the end of the year (the recession) could be postponed till June (or

Karnataka team seeks NRI investment

AFTER participating in a two-day joint seminar of the Non-Resident Indian forums in the Gulf region held in Bahrain recently, a 2-member Karnataka government delegation comprising S.B. Muddappa, chairman and managing director of the Karnataka State Industrial and Investment Development Corporation (KSIDC) and Philipose Matthai, Secretary to the government of Karnataka, Department of Commerce and Industries is currently visiting Kuwait to meet the NRI investors forum of Kuwait and others who are interested in investing in Karnataka.

In honour of the visiting delegation, S.R. Alphonso of the Thuvainy Trading Company of Kuwait hosted a dinner on April 3, and the convenor of the NRI's forum Rajan Nareswalia hosted a lunch which was also attended by some of the important members of the NRI forum.

A meeting of NRIs was arranged with the visiting delegation in the Indian Arts Circle in the evening where they were welcomed by the Indian Arts Circle president M. Mathews.



S. B. Muddappa

Muddappa and Matthai highlighted the objectives of the government's NRI policies. They called for a continuous and systematic communication link between NRIs and the concerned authorities in India and particularly in the state of Karnataka. They informed the gathering that the impressive strides made by India and Karnataka in particular in the fields of industry, trade, science and technology and the liberal policy followed by the government have opened several opportunities for potential investors.

They urged the NRI's in Kuwait to invest in Karnataka.



Philipose Matthai

The KSIDC and the Commerce and Industries Department of the government of Karnataka would welcome NRIs to visit Karnataka and would be keen to guide and facilitate NRI investment in all respects under a single window framework already established.

A number of NRIs took keen interest and requested the visiting delegation to send another team of officials and experts who could guide them as to how to select suitable industries, projects, etc. in which they can invest their earnings. The delegation agreed to do so in the near future.

New Japan oil contract agreed in principle

JAKARTA, April 4, (Reuters): Indonesia's state-owned Pertamina oil company and Japanese buyers have agreed in principle to a new one-year contract for crude sales, but have yet to sign the deal, Pertamina spokesman Kusmadi Endin said today.

Half Indonesia's oil exports go to Japan and the annual contract

is crucial for the national budget for South-East Asia's largest nation.

Endin declined to give details, except to emphasise that the deal was linked to prices set by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec).

He said reports from Tokyo that Indonesia was offering dis-

counts was part of the 'psychological warfare' being waged by Japanese buyers.

Oil industry sources in Tokyo said Japanese companies had increased their planned purchases of Indonesian oil for April after Pertamina offered discounts of \$1.56 a barrel from the Opec reference price for its main Minas crude of \$17.56.

Opec meeting to discuss ways to shore up prices

NEW YORK, April 4, (UPI): Oil prices drifted modestly lower as traders looked forward to this week's scheduled meeting of Opec's five-member pricing committee.

The committee, which includes the oil ministers from Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Nigeria, Indonesia and Algeria, is expected to convene in Vienna on April 9 for a one-day meeting to discuss ways to shore up sagging oil prices.

Prices rallied last week after Opec President Riwanu Lukman, also the Oil Minister of Nigeria, said he would convene the pricing panel. Oil market analysts attributed Tuesday's weakness partly to profit-taking on the heels of those gains.

The average price of a barrel of oil produced by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, now about \$13.50, could rally to as high as \$17 by year-end if oil-producing countries are able to limit output, analysts said.

Prices

"My feeling is that prices will continue to trade in a very narrow range until there is a full ministerial meeting," said Sanford Margoshes, analyst with Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc. in New York. The next meeting of all 13 organisation members' ministers is scheduled for early June.

Margoshes said traders' expectations for the meeting next week were diminished by comments by the Venezuelan oil min-

isters, who cautioned that little was likely to come of the gathering.

"He was in effect preparing the market for an uneventful meeting," Margoshes said.

On the European spot market, the UAE's Dubai light, the key Opec crude from the Middle East, slipped 10 cents to \$13.90 a barrel, while Britain's North Sea Brent lost 5 cents to \$15.50.

On New York's Mercantile Exchange, West Texas Intermediate for May delivery—the principal US crude—eased 12 cents to \$16.98 a barrel.

On the US Gulf coast spot market, West Texas Intermediate climbed by a nickel to \$17 a barrel.

Measures

Oil prices fell by as much as \$4 a barrel in February and early March as a result of price discounting by Opec members and rising non-Opec output. Prices have recovered somewhat over the past two weeks, but observers linked most of the gains to the scheduling of the pricing panel meeting.

Nine non-Opec producing nations met in London earlier this month to discuss measures to halt the price slide, but there has been no indication the countries have taken steps to rein in their output.

Non-leaded gasoline traded on the Merc gained 0.24 cent to 48.26 cents a gallon. No. 2 heating oil edged down just 0.02 cent to 48.15 cents.

John Koles

10,000 entered the Management Challenge over the past 5 years

Benson and Hedges expects high entry

By Gail Seery

A HIGH entry rate is expected for this year's Benson & Hedges Management Challenge, according to Personnel Director Tony Liddle. Over the past five years, some 10,000 professionals have entered the three stage Challenge, and Liddle is certain that the response has been growing. "If we look back at the number of entries for each year we can see this," he said.

Talent

Liddle was speaking to a group of journalists and businessmen at a special presentation at the Hilton hotel, as part of a whirlwind promotional tour of the Gulf.

He explained that the initial idea had come as something of an accident; Benson & Hedges' Training Manager had been touring the Gulf region and had been impressed at the speed and spread of economic and commercial development in the Gulf.

The Challenge was conceived as a way of encouraging and fur-

ther training the new managerial talent operating in the region. Ashridge Management College has been closely involved with the Challenge from its inception, and Professor Bob Thomas has prepared three increasingly complex stages to this year's event.

Thomas stressed that the exercises chosen were devised to take into account the special business conditions prevalent in the Gulf. The exercises would also help candidates to develop and improve their managerial skills, and understanding of how to identify and solve problems, "in business situations where there are no known right answers."

Rewards

The Challenge will be conducted in eight countries, and will culminate in a final in Malaysia. The rewards are seen as being both on a personal level — the development of skills and expertise, and also on the financial level; the winning team of three entrants will each receive a portfolio of gold shares worth \$10,000, to manage.



Mr. Tony Liddle

The first stage involves a short case study. "It appears to be short and simple but is intended to sharpen applicants' skill in diagnosis." Teams have to read the provided information about a small company and its business

objectives and then complete a questionnaire of five multiple choice questions.

Of the likely 2000 entrants, 48 teams from the Gulf will go on to the next stage. Six teams from each country will compete against each other in another simulated business exercise.

Complex

This is a more complex exercise. "They will have to run a business as realistic as we can make it, in a competitive world," Bob Thomas explained. Here teams will have to be able to forecast growth and decline of their market, and to "learn quickly to assess the way in which their competition intends to compete in the market." Again, they will have to gain some financial acumen. "It's also a test of their stamina," says Thomas. "Their confidence should grow. When a man is confident he becomes a better manager."

Eight teams, one from each participating country, will go on to the final which will be held in Malaysia and here there will be

another tough business exercise to be undergone. A new element will be introduced at this level.

"The problem of removing expatriates and replacing them with trained local management will be looked at. This problem is obviously of major importance in the Gulf. The team will have to sustain their imports and move into local production, thus creating wealth in the nation. The winners will be judged not only on the performance of their business, but also on the wealth created in the nation."

The closing date for entries to the first stage is June 30. The local finals will be held during September, and the final will be in the week of November 25. In the past, winners have been spread fairly evenly between the participating countries. Kuwait's Commercial Bank were victors in the 1984 competition. Benson & Hedges will be including applications on coupons in their advertisements in this newspaper.

Wall Street moves higher but dollar and bonds weaken

NEW YORK, April 4. (Reuters) Wall Street's blue-chip index rose to 2,000 today but the dollar fell in a delayed response to last week's US unemployment report, which pointed to better-than-expected health in the economy.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped in early trading but then rose strongly and was up 14 points at 2,002 as traders chose to emphasise the positive aspects of the unemployment figures.

But the dollar fell to 1.6495 marks from 1.6555 in Friday's lightly-traded session, and to 123.75 yen from 123.95. The pound sterling, which rose sharply last week, advanced to \$1.8925 from 1.8905.

Lower

Bond prices were also lower. On Friday, the US Labour Department said unemployment in March fell to 5.6 per cent, the lowest level of the decade. While a decline in unemployment is usually good news, it also raises the prospect that the Federal Reserve, the US Central Bank,

may have to boost interest rates if it fears overheating in the economy.

Most US financial markets were closed on Friday for the Good Friday holiday, delaying market reaction to the jobs figures.

Prices

While Tokyo markets resumed normal business today, many European centres remained closed for Easter, leaving US markets without all the usual overseas influences. Tokyo stock prices rose, with the 225-share Nikkei index up 53.17 points, or 0.20 per cent, to close at 26,335.29.

The dollar fell in Tokyo to 123.85 yen against a 124.10 previous closing, not so much due to fears over the US economy but because traders and businesses want yen to invest in a strong Japanese economy, dealers in Tokyo said.

"The dollar looks very weak," said the chief dealer at a US bank in New York. "There was a little intervention overnight by the Bank of Japan, but it didn't help."

much.

"We will see more selling pressure today unless we get heavy intervention by the Federal Reserve and the Bank of Japan."

Ordinarily, the prospect of higher US interest rates would boost the dollar because such a move makes the currency more attractive, but that is not the case now, dealers say.

"The market is still in the train of thought that strong US economic data mean that import demand is strong as well, which is bad for the dollar," said a foreign exchange analyst, alluding to the still-massive US trade deficit.

The US jobs figures showed a 262,000 gain in non-farm jobs in March, a sign of a strong economy, which pressured US bond prices today. The key 30-year bond fell 10/32 to 99-32. Bond prices move inversely to interest rates.

Gold prices advanced, helped by the weaker dollar, dealers said. The June gold futures contract on the Commodity Exchange in New York rose \$4.50 to \$462.40 an ounce.

Bond issue can ensure liquidity to cover expected deficit

KUWAIT'S Finance Minister, Jassem Al Khorafi, has said that the present government bonds and treasury bills will be sufficient to ensure the liquidity needed to cover the expected deficit in the state budget for the 1988-89 fiscal year.

In an interview with the Arabic magazine Al Majallah published in London, he said that the reduction in state income caused by the drop in oil returns might affect the size of monetary donations that Kuwait granted to other countries, but Kuwait had no intention to stop these donations.

Meanwhile, the governor of Kuwait's Central Bank, Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah, told a local newspaper that the increase in interest rates had no connection with the treasury bills and bonds offered for sale by the Central Bank.

He added that the interest rate increased during the past two weeks as a result of intervention by the Central Bank which considered the low interest rate undesirable at present. He said the low interest rate encouraged outflow of funds into foreign currencies because of the difference in interest rates.



Jassem Al Khorafi

The Central Bank was obliged to counter this situation by increasing the interest rate, he stressed.

Commenting on the rate of the Kuwaiti dinar in comparison to the main world currencies, he said the present rate was suitable. The rate of the dinar was determined daily according to the price of the basket of currencies and this also reflected the commercial relations and balance between Kuwait and the concerned countries.

He added that the Central Bank could only control the rate of the Kuwaiti dinar against the US dollar.

When Wall Street sneezes, do other markets catch cold?

LONDON, April 4. (Reuters) A reason for the scale of the crash of 87 and for more recent money market jitters may be the tendency of traders around the globe to react less to the actual news than to what other traders do, some economists say.

They call it "the contagion theory."

Falls on Wall Street in the third week of March, for instance, produced a reaction in stock and currencies elsewhere. Traders marked prices lower, in very quiet trading, keeping a nervous eye on New York.

"Weakness in the dollar is now beginning to feed off the D J (Dow Jones industrial average)," said a London currency dealer.

That does not surprise those economists who back the theory of market contagion.

"If the theory is right, then that leaves open one possible explanation of the crash, in terms of saying that the crash started in one market and through the volatility so generated, was transmitted to other markets," says Professor Mervyn King, of the London School of Economics.

The idea, he told a recent conference at the school, is that the London Stock Market reacts to Wall Street, when New York brokers start trading towards the middle of London's afternoon.

But, he added, New York brokers look at what London had been doing before deciding whether to open Wall Street up or down.

That kind of reaction feeding

on reaction may move shares farther than companies' prospects or economic conditions would otherwise dictate.

"Our figures seem to say that normally a one point drop in US share prices will set off a 0.7 point drop in London prices which may feed back and knock 0.3 points off New York prices," said Sushil Wadhvani of the London School of Economics.

"Each bounce is smaller than the one before," he said.

Circumstances

But, he added, a statistical analysis of New York, London and Tokyo share prices between September and November, 1987, suggests that pattern of diminishing bounces can break down when markets become extremely volatile.

A trader can lose millions in such circumstances by delaying a purchase or sale of big blocks of shares, or currencies, or commodities.

The more prices fluctuate, and the more nervous traders grow as a result of that, the more likely they are to react to what other markets are doing.

Volatile

That is what happened on and after October 19, "Black Monday," when Wall Street shares plunged 22.6 per cent as the Dow Jones industrial average dropped 508 points, Wadhvani said.

"When traders sitting in front of their screens saw New York drop, they didn't have time to stop and think if there was any fundamental reason, if something in the condition of the

world economy had changed, or if it was just the effect of programme selling. They just sold," said Wadhvani.

"One market goes down, the other goes down, and then the whole climate gets more volatile so that each successive change remains big," said Wadhvani. "You don't get the dampening effect."

Wadhvani and King's analysis aimed at isolating a statistical correlation between the way New York, London and Tokyo share prices move.

There is always some relation, but during the crash, the degree of correlation between New York and London prices during the times of day when both markets were open was unusually high, Wadhvani said.

"There was an awful lot of trading noise, and those figures reflect it," he said. "They suggest that things were very unstable."

Potential

But he said the sample, from a statistician's point of view, was small and that suggests a potential for error.

James Poterba, a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, said he is not completely convinced.

"The real difficulty is to sort out whether the effect is markets transmitting prices to other markets, or whether it is different markets reacting to the same news," Poterba said.

"But what is clear is that the widespread collapse of markets around the world on October 19 is hard to explain by looking at purely US factors," he added.

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5/4	Novo Cherkassk	Al Rashed	2422026
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9	Abu Basma	RSMs	2423642
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31/3	KOL	Gh N Q	4747815
4/4	Grace Liberty	Al Kamal	2425437
4/4	Al Manak	UASC	4843150
5/4	Ionian Express	Gh. Barber	4842988
5/4	Trade Freedom	Ma. Bahar	2433881
10/4	Torrey	KMMC	2419814
11/4	Dubai	UASC	4843150
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KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	0.870	0.870	0.870	0.870	215000	10
GULF BANK	0.345	0.345	0.345	0.345	60000	4
COMMERCIAL BK	0.246	0.246	0.246	0.246	200000	4
AHLI BANK	0.280	0.280	0.280	0.280	10000	1
B.K.M.E.	0.300	---	---	---	---	---
K.R.E.B.	0.390	0.380	0.380	0.380	10000	1
BURGAN BANK	0.248	0.248	0.248	0.248	40000	1
K.F.HOUSE	0.475	0.475	0.475	0.475	160000	5
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KWT INV. CO.	0.184	---	---	---	---	---
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	---	---	---	---	---
K.F.I.C.	0.162	---	---	---	---	---
COM.FACILITIES	0.385	---	---	---	---	---
AHLIAH INV.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
T.F.A.	0.102	---	---	---	---	---
INV. PEARL KWT	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	740000	5
INSURANCE SECTOR						
KWT INSURANCE	0.690	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INSURANCE	0.370	---	---	---	---	---
AHLIAH INS. CO.	0.510	---	---	---	---	---
WARBA INS. CO.	0.420	---	---	---	---	---
REAL ESTATE SECTOR						
KWT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.240	---	---	---	---	---
UNJ R.E.S.T. CO.	0.118	---	---	---	---	---
NAT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.224	---	---	---	---	---
SALAHIA R.E.	0.075	---	---	---	---	---
KWT PROJECTS	0.087	0.088	0.088	0.088	400000	3
KWT R.E.I. CON	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
NAT IND. CO.	0.510	---	---	---	---	---
KWT M.P. IND.	0.295	---	---	---	---	---
KWT CEMENT CO.	0.238	---	---	---	---	---
REF. IND. CO.	0.385	---	---	---	---	---
N.A.M.T. CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
GULF CABLE	0.970	---	---	---	---	---
K.P.H. IND. CO.	0.122	---	---	---	---	---
CONT. MARINE	0.350	---	---	---	---	---
X.S.H. REP. CO.	0.042	---	---	---	---	---
SERVICES SECTOR						
OVERLAND TRANS	0.081	---	---	---	---	---
K.N.C. CO.	0.190	---	---	---	---	---
KWT HOTELS CO.	0.174	---	---	---	---	---
P.WAREHOUSING	0.146	0.136	0.136	0.136	60000	2
COM.MKT. CMPLX.	0.019	0.019	0.019	0.019	480000	5
MOBILE TELE.	0.360	0.355	0.355	0.355	180000	11
KWT COMPUTER	0.192	---	---	---	---	---
FOOD SECTOR						
LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.240	---	---	---	---	---
UNTD FISHERIES	0.146	---	---	---	---	---
UNTD POULTRY	0.238	---	---	---	---	---
KWT FOODS	0.300	---	---	---	---	---
AGRI. FOOD PROD.	0.150	---	---	---	---	---
NON-KWT SECTOR	---	---	---	---	---	---
B.H. INTER. BK	0.067	0.067	0.067	0.067	280000	3
B.H.M. EAST. BK	0.047	---	---	---	---	---
UNTD. GULF BK	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
COAST INVEST.	0.087	0.085	0.085	0.085	200000	4
A.G. INV. CORP	0.039	0.040	0.040	0.040	160000	2
FIRST GULF BK	0.620	---	---	---	---	---
B.K.I.G.	0.081	---	---	---	---	---

Big reshuffle at Kuwait Asia

BAHRAIN'S Kuwait Asia Bank is undergoing a complete restructuring. The resignation of general manager John House, one of the most respected and experienced bankers in the Gulf, marks the end of an era in which many banks flourished only to lose their way later, according to MEED.

Under the restructuring, Kuwait Asia will gradually shift its business away from commercial banking towards investment and international treasury operations. It will, however, maintain the capacity to participate in selective commercial activities.

The bank's new face is reflected in the late-March announcement of the appointment of Omar Hadeed as acting general manager. Hadeed, 36, former treasurer of Industrial Bank of Kuwait, took over from House, who will leave the bank at the end of April to pursue personal interests.

According to Hadeed, who was appointed to the bank's board in 1986, the strategy is to run off the loan portfolio gradually. The bank decided to move away from commercial banking in 1986, but the process appears to have progressed slowly.

Sweeping changes also took place last year. Following the ousting of four vice-presidents in January, the board was reorganised in mid-year. More executives left later in 1987 as various marketing and commercial departments were closed. By the end of the year, eight of the 12-member board had been replaced and, like United Gulf Bank (UGB), it was clear that as a commercial bank it had no future.

Results

Kuwait Asia has delayed announcing its 1987 results. They are now not due out until mid-May. Hadeed says the bank is revising its sovereign loan loss provisions in line with the new Bahrain Monetary Agency (BMA—central bank authority) guidelines. Heavy losses are expected following five years of profits since the bank was established in 1981.

At the end of 1986, loans stood at \$243.4 million. Credit commitments amounting to \$318.5 million were spread among the Arab world (30.7 per cent), Asia (43.6 per cent), Turkey (13.6 per cent), and Europe (2.8 per cent). Total assets fell sharply to \$487.8 million following a \$150 million drawdown in time deposits.

Nigeria debates debt-equity conversion

LAGOS, April 4. (DPA): Amid initial signs that the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) has begun to take hold in the economy, Nigeria's leadership is now debating whether to seek debt-equity conversion arrangements to help cope with Lagos' huge debt burden.

Economic analysts here say that debt rescheduling agreements with creditors in London and Paris, mainly covering 1986 and 1987 liabilities falling due, have largely been responsible for the SAP's success so far.

Costs

But with the overall debt burden at some \$24 billion, half of that in short-term (trade obligations), the SAP's gains remain in jeopardy, say the analysts.

Economists point out that the

financial situation remains tight amid the foreign exchange earnings decline and rising debt service obligations. Nigeria's earnings, chiefly from oil, have plummeted from \$26 billion in 1980 to some \$5 billion last year.

At the same time, the debt service ratio — the costs of debt management vis-a-vis foreign exchange earnings — has surged from 0.7 per cent in 1980 to 24.1 per cent in 1987. Last year's figure did represent some improvement from the 1985 rate of 33.2 per cent.

Nigerian leader General Ibrahim Babangida lately has argued that future debt rescheduling agreements should provide for much longer maturities and concessionary interest rates.

Meanwhile, second-in-command Vice Admiral Augustus Aikhonu recently hinted that

the government may approve a debt-for-equity swap — in effect, foreign creditors converting some of their claims into equity shares in Nigerian companies — in order to reduce the foreign debt load and promote domestic investment and employment.

Details of the swap scheme "are being worked out to minimise possible side-effects such as its inflationary impact on the domestic economy," Aikhonu remarked.

Scheme

Proponents of the debt-for-equity swap scheme argue that it would make substantial amounts of investment capital available. Such funds could be channelled into key sectors of the economy, at the same time increasing companies' liquidity and boosting overall productivity.

Gulf Bank weekly market review

KD slightly firmer against GCC currencies

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Hard work pays off: Becker

DALLAS, April 4, (UPI): Boris Becker has learned a valuable lesson at an early age, one he hopes will vault him toward recognition as the best tennis player in the world. Hard work, he has found, pays off.

Becker, currently ranked fourth in the world behind Ivan Lendl, Mats Wilander and Stefan Edberg, defeated Edberg in the finals of the World Championship of Tennis on Saturday, a decision that signalled a return to his previous form.

"When I was 16 and 17, I trained very hard," said Becker, who at the age of 20 has already won two Wimbledon championships.

"Then I won Wimbledon and my whole programme changed. I had to play here, I had to play there. I had to do a lot of extra things. I didn't train as hard. For one year I could get by without it, but it was just a matter of time before it showed up and last year it did."

After winning Wimbledon two straight years, Becker was ousted from that tournament in the second round last year. Then some nagging injuries set in and his game suffered.

As a result, he hired Australian coach Bob Brett, who has put Becker through a strenuous training programme.

"Whatever I do now, I do hard," Becker said. "I work very hard. This (win over Edberg) is just another proof that my training and practice are paying off. Now it is just a matter of putting it together for the Grand Slam events."

Remember

"The match with Edberg was my best of the year. I served 19 aces and I don't ever remember doing that against Edberg before. I seemed to move better and played better and better as the match went on."

"I've been doing some of this in practice. It was just a matter of bringing it to the court and I did it in this match."

Becker has a busy year planned, one that will include a trip to Seoul, S. Korea, for the Olympics. This is the first year professional tennis players will be allowed to play in the games and Becker said he is looking forward to it.

"It's a goal to go there," he said. "It is not so much a goal to win, but just to be part of the experience. Who knows if I am going to be playing tennis in four years. This may be a one-in-a-lifetime chance and I want to go."

"I would like to stay in the player rooms with two or three people I might not know."

When it was pointed out that rooms in an Olympic village are nowhere near as plush as he is used to seeing on the tennis circuit, Becker said he would not mind.

WORLD NO. 3 WINS FLORIDA OPEN

Evert holds off Sanchez



Evert: had a tough game

LARGO, Fla., April 4, (Reuter): Sixteen-year-old Arantxa Sanchez put up a valiant struggle yesterday but fell to the far more experienced Chris Evert in the final of the \$200,000 Florida Tennis Open.

The top-seeded American, usually at her best on clay, fought off the unseeded Spanish teenager's determined challenge 7-6 6-4 to defend her title here.

Stopped

Earlier yesterday, Sanchez finished off Argentine Patricia Tarabini 6-2 6-2 in a semifinal that was postponed by heavy rain. Sanchez had won the first set on Saturday, but play was stopped in the first game of the second set.

Sanchez, playing in her first professional final, showed no fatigue from the earlier set. Both Evert and Sanchez, who attacked net at every opportunity, held serve for 10 games. Sanchez came up with the first break of the one hour 50 minute match in the next game to lead 6-5, but Evert broke right back and forced a tiebreak.

Evert, No. 3 in the world, then controlled the tiebreak and carried the momentum into the second set.

The top seed, who usually stays on the baseline, had several volley winners in the second set. She used her expert shot placement to hit deep and wide, then followed with crosscourt winners out of the Spaniard's reach.

Sanchez continued to play aggressively in an attempt to regain some momentum.

"Chris is the third player in the world and I'm 45 so I had nothing to lose," Sanchez said.

Ended

The strategy worked momentarily as the teenager broke Evert, who was serving for the match at 5-3.

But the 33-year-old dug down and ended the match with a service break of her own. "It was a very close match. The first set could have gone either way," said Evert, who won \$40,000.

Biasion wins Safari Rally

NAIROBI, April 4, (Reuter): Lancia-driver Miki Biasion took over as World Championship leader today when he won the Safari Rally, the first Italian victory in the 36 years of the rugged endurance test.

Biasion, who lost 13 minutes in today's final stage, finished with a total time loss of two hours 51 minutes four seconds.

He held off a strong challenge from Kenyan Mike Kirkland, in a Nissan, who lost 3:03:57 and third-placed Per Eklund of Sweden, also in a Nissan, whose penalties totalled 3:38:26.

"This is the most important victory of my career and also the hardest," said Biasion, whose win lifted him 10 points clear of fellow-Italian Alessandro Fiorio at the top of the standings.

Kirkland made a desperate bid to overhaul Biasion today, continuing to drive despite severe damage to the front-end suspension of his car.

"I couldn't hold the car on the road because it was bouncing all over the place," said the 40-year-old former Kenyan champion after today's 510-km stage through the dusty Rift Valley.

"Every time we took one minute off him (Biasion) we'd get a puncture and lose two (minutes)," Kirkland said.

Kirkland's Nissan teammate Eklund, plagued by punctures on the last leg, held onto third place.

Kenneth Eriksson, driving a Toyota Supra, finished fourth. It was the first time the 31-year-old Swede had finished the Safari Rally.

Defending world champion Juha Kankkunen of Finland, who led the rally on Saturday, finished fifth with a time loss of



Biasion (right) and Fiorio celebrate their victory at the finish. (Reuter-wirephoto)

four hours 16 minutes 22 seconds.

Only 14 of the 54 cars that left the ramp on Thursday made it over the finishing line compared with 23 cars last year.

Final placings:
1. Miki Biasion (Italy) Lancia Delta, total time loss 2 hours 51 min 4 sec.
2. Mike Kirkland (Kenya) Nissan 200SX, 03:03:57
3. Per Eklund (Sweden) Nissan 200SX, 03:38:26
4. Kenneth Eriksson (Sweden) Toyota Supra, 03:53:46
5. Juha Kankkunen (Finland) Toyota Supra, 04:16:22

6. Ian Duncan (Kenya) Subaru 4WD Turbo, 04:28:34
7. Bjorn Waldegard (Sweden) Toyota Supra, 04:29:31
8. Rudolf Stohl (Austria) Audi Quattro, 04:50:09
9. Possum Bourne (New Zealand) Subaru 4WD Turbo, 07:23:50
10. Jim Heather Hayes (Kenya) Nissan March Turbo, 09:25:42
11. Patrick Njiru (Kenya) Subaru 4WD, 12:01:23
12. Manjit Gharial (Kenya) Daihatsu Charade G100, 12:39:05
13. Joern Fritzer (West Germany) Volkswagen Golf GTI, 14:25:20
14. Ramesh Khoda (Kenya) Subaru 4WD, 17:29:58

Leconte fights back to edge past Chang

HOUSTON, April 4, (AP): France's Henri Leconte rediscovered his inconsistent serve in a second-set tiebreaker and wore down tour rookie Michael Chang, 4-6, 7-6, 6-3 yesterday in the final of the \$200,000 River Oaks International tennis tournament.

Leconte, who earned a \$40,000 paycheck, reached the final with a steady serve but it deserted him in the opening set when he connected on only 29 per cent of his first serves.

Leconte was broken three times in the first set but he took the second set to a tiebreaker and won it 7-2, with five of his points coming on his serve. Leconte then took charge of the match, breaking Chang in the first and third games of the third set.

Faulted

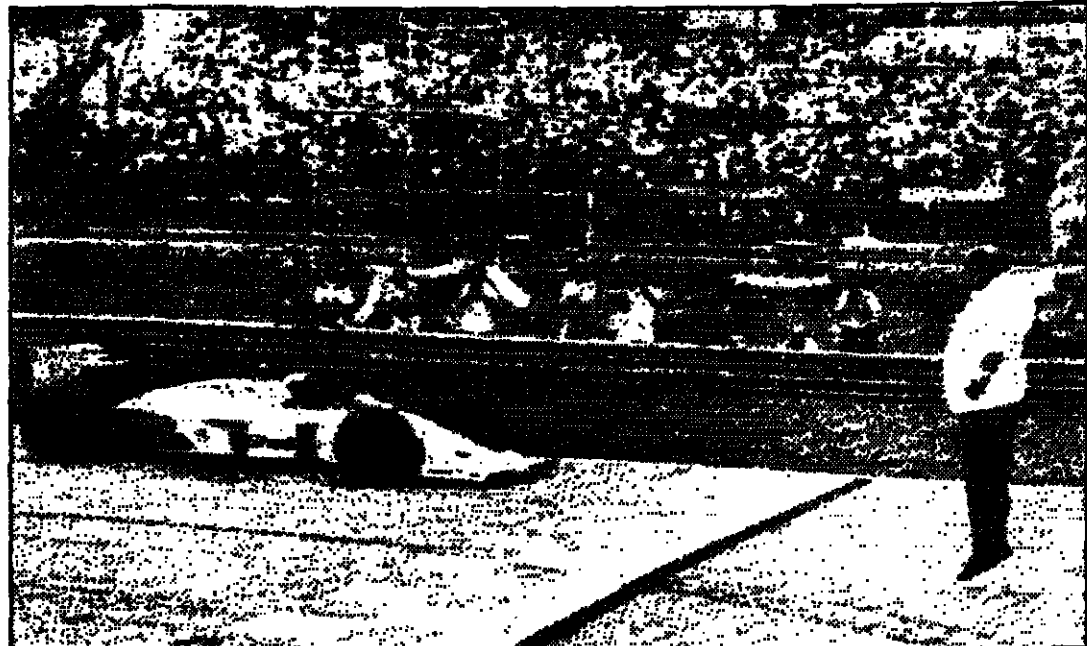
The Frenchman hit only 36 of 105 first serves in the match for a 34 per cent average and double faulted five times.

"I was not playing very good in the first set, making mistakes and not serving well," Leconte said. "I was fighting the entire match."

Leconte, 24, said he changed his tactics as the match progressed.

"When you don't know a player you have to try different things," said Leconte, playing Chang for the first time. "In the tiebreaker I hit a few winners and that helped my confidence for the rest of the match."

"I decided to go for it in the tiebreaker and go for some winners."



Prost gets the chequered flag. (Reuter wirephoto)

Atmos suffer humiliating defeat

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 4, (Reuter): Alain Prost and the five other drivers of turbocharged cars who followed him home in the Brazilian Grand Prix gave convincing evidence that the Turbos are set to make a triumphant farewell to the World Championship.

The Brazilian race yesterday was the opening event in the final Grand Prix season in which turbos will be allowed. From 1989 all the cars will be powered by normally-aspirated engines.

Role

But until next year, it seems the Atmos — as they are known — will have to play a supporting role.

The turbos were in complete command on the Nelson Piquet circuit, none more so than the new McLaren MP4/4 which was brilliantly handled by Prost in his fifth Brazilian Grand Prix victory in seven years.

The little Frenchman led all the way, retaining his advantage even during a tyre stop at the end of lap 26.

Only nine of the 26-car grid completed the race, and of these

seven were turbos. Considering only 10 of the 31 cars entered in the championship this year are turbos, the normally-aspirated cars suffered a humiliating defeat.

New rules aimed at bringing the turbos more into line with the Atmos — a reduction in maximum boost and a tank capacity restriction of 150 litres — made little difference.

Prost said: "I was a bit concerned about the fuel consumption, but it wasn't a major problem and I ran less than the maximum boost pressure for most of the race."

"The car was much better than during practice and qualifying," Prost added. "I managed to change an enormous number of things before the race, such as the seating position, brake pedal and gearchange."

There was disappointment for McLaren, however, with Prost's new teammate, Brazilian Ayrton Senna, being disqualified after qualifying in pole position.

Senna's gear linkage broke on the starting grid and he switched to the spare car, a change that

was ruled illegal. He was disqualified during the race.

Explaining what happened on the starting grid, Senna said: "I just pulled it back into first gear before the green light and something broke. Then I took the spare and was disqualified. Obviously it's a big disappointment."

Reigning world champion Nelson Piquet of Brazil began his bid for his fourth title with a third-place finish at the circuit named after him.

"The Lotus is a good reliable car and I'm sure will be even better when we have time to learn more about the balance and set-up," Piquet said.

Despite the restrictions placed on the turbos, Austrian Gerhard Berger who was second in a Ferrari set a lap record when he covered the 5.031-km circuit in one minute 32.943 seconds.

The old record set by Piquet in 1986 was one minute 33.546 seconds.

The second round of the championship will be held at Imola, Italy — one of the fastest circuits — on May 1.

Hill retains WBA title

BISMARCK, N.D., April 4, (Reuter): American Virgil Hill outboxed Cameroun-born Frenchman Jean-Marie Emebe for 10 rounds yesterday, then stopped him in the 11th to retain his World Boxing Association light heavyweight title.

Hill, 24, improved his record to 21-4, to the delight of his hometown fans. Emebe's record dropped to 25-5. It was the first title fight ever held in North Dakota and over 8,000 fans packed the Bismarck Convention Centre to cheer for the state's first world champion.

Trouble

Hill did not disappoint as he danced and jabbed his way through the early rounds, building a huge lead.

Emebe fought his way out of trouble a couple of times in the middle rounds, but Hill was so

far ahead on points that the challenger's only hope of victory was a late knockout.

Instead, Hill connected with a combination to Emebe's head in the 11th round that dropped the Parisian to the canvas for the first time in the 32-year-old's career.

Emebe was able to get up, but was virtually defenceless. Hill backed him into a corner and landed punches at will to the head and body of the exhausted challenger and referee Roberto Ramirez stopped the fight at 1:29 of the 11th round of the scheduled 12-rounder.

"I think he anticipated me to run more than I did," said Hill, who aggravated a hand injury and suffered a cut over the left eye from a seemingly unintentional head butt in the eighth round that did not slow him down.

Bulls struggle past Pistons

PONTIAC, Michigan, April 4, (AP): Michael Jordan scored a season-high 59 points, including two free throws with four seconds left in the game to snap a tie and give the Chicago Bulls a 112-110 NBA victory over the Detroit Pistons yesterday.

The loss was Detroit's fourth in a row. Chicago has won 12 of its last 16 games.

Jordan set up the game-winning free throws when he stole the ball near midcourt and was fouled by Bill Laimbeer.

Results

Boston	110	Dallas	101
Chicago	112	Detroit	110
Atlanta	102	Indiana	100
Washington	105	New Jersey	103
Portland	110	San Antonio	107
LA Lakers	108	Sacramento	104

Lyle sinks birdie putt for Greensboro Open title

GREENSBORO, N.C., April 4, (Reuter): Briton Sandy Lyle sank an eight-foot birdie putt on the first hole of a sudden death playoff yesterday to beat Ken Green and win the Greater Greensboro Open for the second time in his career.

Lyle, who won the \$1 million event here in 1986, finished regulation tied with Green at 17-under par 271. Lyle's fourth victory on the US PGA Tour was his third playoff win.

"I'm getting to be an old hand at these playoffs," said Lyle, who became the first Briton to win more than one US Tour event in a single season in modern history.

Season

Lyle collected \$180,000 for his second win of the season to top of the US earnings list with \$408,021.

Jeff Sluman, who was Lyle's nearest challenger entering the final round, finished with a 71 yesterday, alone in third place at 14-under-par 274.

Lyle led through most of the final round, but Green followed a birdie on the 16th hole with a 30-foot birdie putt on 17 to take a one-shot lead into the final hole.

Lyle missed the green on the par-four 18th and his chip for birdie hit the hole but bounced out, leaving Green in excellent position for the victory.

"When Ken birdied 16 and 17 my chances were a bit dim," Lyle said. "I hit the best chip I hit all day but when it didn't go in I felt a bit doomed."

Green needed only to sink a three-foot putt to collect the winner's prize, but his shot lipped out to force a playoff.

"When you open the door and give someone a chance like that more times than not it will come back to haunt you," said an obviously upset Green.

"I've had many surprises this year. I certainly didn't expect Ken to miss his three-foot par putt," said Lyle, who joins Steve Fale as the Tour's only multiple winner this year.

Alcott finishes in top spot

RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif., April 4, (Reuter): Amy Alcott staved off a challenge from Colleen Walker yesterday to score a two-stroke victory in the \$500,000 Dinah Shore Classic with a tournament record 14-under-par 274.

Alcott's final round one-under-par 71 was good enough to earn her \$80,000 in the richest tournament on the US LPGA tour. Alcott's score, in her 27th career victory, was one stroke better than the previous Dinah Shore record set by Donna Caponi in 1980 and matched by Alice Miller in 1985.

Straight

Walker, who started the day four strokes behind Alcott, recorded her second straight three-under-par 69. It was not enough, however, to catch Alcott and she finished in second place at 12-under 276 and collected

\$42,000. Rosie Jones, who began the day five strokes off the pace, matched Alcott's 71 to finish third at 279.

"I just played some of the best golf of my career and it felt really good," said Alcott, 32, who was winless last season for the first time since joining the tour in 1975.

"I knew I would win again sooner or later, but it's even more wonderful to do it at this tournament which put women's golf on the map," said Alcott, who won here in 1983.

Sandra Post, the 1978 and 1979 victor, is the only other two-time winner in the 17-year history of the event.

Alcott and Caddy Bill Kurre embraced in jubilation on the huge island 18th green as she sank her final putt and then they ran hand-in-hand into the nearby water.

Discover gold

Benson & Hedges

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

9-a-side soccer

TIVIM Centre will hold an inter-village 9-a-side football tournament, from the first week of Ramadan, in the evenings, at Al Sour grounds, Kuwait City. Entry forms will be available with members of Tivim Centre and draws will be held on April 15. For further details contact Andrew: 2460265 or the organisers.

Alberto Tomba

COLERE, Italy, April 4, (UPI): Despite the world-leading performance this winter which brought home two Olympic gold medals and runner-up spot in the World Ski Cup, Alberto Tomba won't be getting any special treatment, head coach Sepp Messner says.

Soccer friendly

LONDON, April 4, (UPI): A European Select XI will play a rest of the World XI in an international soccer friendly at Wembley stadium on April 13 to raise money for famine relief in Ethiopia.

Title fight

BERCK, France, April 4, (UPI): American Tyrone Trice and Simon Brown of Jamaica will meet April 23 in northern France for the vacant International Boxing Federation welterweight title, officials said.

Michel Platini

TURIN, Italy, April 4, (UPI): Michel Platini, the former golden boy at Juventus, will return to the team April 12 when the Italian side plays a testimonial at Leeds in England for another former Juventus great, John Charles.

Dutch court

ROTTERDAM, Holland, April 4, (UPI): The 22-year-old Dutch hooligan who threw a home-made bomb onto the pitch during the Holland-Cyprus European championship soccer match was sentenced to 150 hours community service, a Dutch court ruled this week.

Superbike race

DONINGTON PARK, England, April 4, (Reuters): Former world 500cc motorcycle champion Marco Lucchinelli inherited victory in the first round of the new World Superbike Championship yesterday when fellow Italian Davide Tardozzi, fell on the last lap of the second 30-lap race.

RESULTS of the Hubera Centre Bridge Club game played on Saturday evening:

N/S: 1. Sherin Bayoumi & Alec Kerkij 2. Jamila & Nabil Akel 3. Yaseen & Ghazi E/W: 1. Guirgins & Masoud 2. Mukerjee & Choudhury 3. Diab & Ibrahim Results of the Hilton Bridge Club game played at the International Hotel on Sunday evening: 1. Mamoud Sahri & K.T. Simon 2. Nabil Akel & Lello Mardwaite 3. Dosa Matery & Sherin Bayoumi 4. Magdi Al Azzazi & M. Chaudhary

PAKISTAN TAKE FIRST INNINGS LEAD

Miandad slams West Indies for ton

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, April 4, (Reuters): Javed Miandad (114), Salim Yousuf with 58 not out and 65 extras took Pakistan to a healthy 411 for eight at tea on the third day of the first cricket Test against the West Indies today.

The Pakistanis had passed West Indies' first innings total of 292 in the morning session, thanks to Miandad.

Resuming at their overnight total of 249 for four, the tourists added 62 before lunch for the loss of two wickets in the meagre 21 overs the West Indians bowled.

Crucial

Javed required 53 minutes to score the four runs needed to post his first Test hundred against the West Indies and his 16th Test century in all. His crucial fifth wicket partnership of 80 with Ejaz Ahmed came to an end when he played on to Patrick Patterson.

Miandad's painstaking innings, lasting 405 minutes and 234 balls, contained 12 fours. He has now scored centuries against all Test-playing countries.

Ejaz departed in the next over for a dented 31, caught in the gully off Courtney Walsh.

Yousuf pressed Pakistan's advantage home, adding 64 in a seventh-wicket partnership with Imran Khan (24) before the Pakistani skipper was caught at long

leg off Winston Benjamin.

Ijaz Faqih was bowled for five soon afterwards by off-spinner Carl Hooper and Abdul Qadir joined Yousuf to squeeze out a further 28 runs in a frustrating half-hour for the West Indies.

Extras included 34 no-balls and 20 byes.

Scores: West Indies 292 (Gus Logie 80, Richie Richardson 75, Imran Khan seven for 80). Pakistan 411 for eight (Javed Miandad 114, Salim Yousuf 58 not out).

Yesterday Miandad was uncharacteristically restrained but played exactly the innings Pakistan needed after they bowled out West Indies for 292 just before the close on Saturday.

Miandad was 96 not out last night as Pakistan reached 249 for four off only 69 overs after a mixture of attack in the morning session followed by patient consolidation for the rest of the day.

It was not vintage Miandad but he was clearly determined to improve his moderate record against the West Indies.

He enjoyed some slices of luck yesterday, being caught off a no-ball when 27 and dropped by wicketkeeper Jeff Dujon when 87.

Yesterday West Indies struck in the fourth over of the day when Rameez Raja top-edged a hook and was caught by Desmond Haynes in the gully off Patrick

Patterson for five.

Mudassar Nazar and Shoaib Mohammad took the score to 57 before Mudassar was yorked by Courtney Walsh for 29 to give the Antiguan his first Test wicket.

Shoaib was joined by Miandad and the pair lifted Pakistani spirits in a stand of 70 when Shoaib was well caught by a tumbling Gordon Greenidge at first slip off Courtney Walsh for 46 made in 130 minutes.

Miandad and Salim Malik featured in another good partnership for the fourth wicket of 90, with Malik scoring 27 in 166 minutes.

He was prised out by Patterson with the help of another fine catch by Greenidge at slip.

Despite

Most of the yesterday's action came in the first session of play when 115 runs were scored as the Pakistani batsmen took the fight to the fast bowlers, despite a series of short-pitched deliveries.

In the final over before lunch yesterday there was an exchange between Winston Benjamin and umpire Lloyd Barker when Barker no balled the pacesman three times in succession for overstepping and issued a warning for intimidatory bowling.

One of the deliveries struck Miandad and off another he was caught at third man.



Miandad: 16 Test century

Real prepare for Cup semifinal

MADRID, April 4, (Reuters): Real Madrid prepared for their European Cup semifinal against PSV Eindhoven by extending their lead at the top of the Spanish First Division to a luxurious 10 points following a relaxed 2-0 victory over Mallorca in the Balearics on Saturday night.

Goals by midfielder Michel, a stunning 30-meter drive in the first half, and his fellow-Spanish international striker Emilio Butragueno, a typical opportunist strike in the second, secured a comfortable win four days before their first-leg meeting in Madrid with Dutch champions.

With second-placed Real Sociedad losing 2-0 at in-form Celta only three days after their Spanish Cup final defeat by Barcelona, Madrid are virtually certain of winning their 23rd League title with at least four matches to spare.

Produce

But coach Leo Beenhacker admitted his team were never forced to produce the form which has lifted them clear at the top and made them hot favourites to win the European Cup for a record seventh time.

He said: "It wasn't the real Real Madrid. We were playing with the brakes on. Especially after the first goal. We were really just looking to keep the game under control."

Madrid, like PSV who idled to a 1-0 win over Haarlem, were more concerned with avoiding



Butragueno: got the second goal for Real against Mallorca.

any injuries — an ambition in which they succeeded at the expense of sterile performance.

PSV, Europe's highest-scoring team, stayed eight points clear of Ajax in the Dutch First Division courtesy of Wim Kieft's 44th minute goal, but their performance was overshadowed by the absence of suspended Dutch international sweeper Ronald Koeman.

Koeman was fined 10,000 guilders (\$5,400) and banned for one match for praising a foul, by Hans Gillhaus on Jean Tigana of

Bordeaux in their quarterfinal first leg, in the Dutch monthly Sport International.

With Steaua Bucharest not playing, Portuguese champions Benfica were the only Champions' Cup semifinalists to show their true form, a 4-0 victory over Penafiel on Saturday ensuring they will travel to Romania full of confidence.

One up at the interval thanks to a goal from Brazilian Libero Mozer, Benfica rattled in further goals through Chiquinho, Diamantino and Rui Aguiar.

Salmiya brush aside Skylark

SALMIYA Combined Eleven (SCE) defeated Skylark, unbeaten before this match, by 10 wickets in a Zaqra Trophy cricket tournament game at the Rumaihiya ground on Friday.

After winning the toss, Skylark opted to bat and were all out for 127 in 26.3 overs. The Skylark batsmen were all at sea against some accurate bowling by their opponents. D'Souza hit 30 and Violin 24.

Each Phillips was the main wicket-taker with three scalps while Ghulam and Saleem got two each. Saleem Sr took one wicket. Salmiya opened their innings through Khalid and Saleem Jr. The Skylark side conceded defeat when the score reached 67 and the opening batsmen were still at the crease.

Siddique beat Super Stars

SIDDIQUE Cricket Club scored an easy 168-run victory over Super Stars in a Sabah Trophy match at the Safeway Ground on Friday.

Batting first, Siddique scored 235 for the loss of seven wickets in 25 overs. The highlight of the Siddique innings was a fine century by Amjad.

Amjad hit the Super Stars bowlers all over the ground for 106 runs. The century was scored off only 90 balls with the help of three sixes and 15 fours. Khalid 27 and Sajid 23 were the other batsmen to do well.

In reply, Super Stars were all out for 67 runs. Khalid, Mukesh and Asif Anjad took two wickets each.

NHL games

NEW YORK, April 4, (Reuters): Results of National Hockey League (NHL) games played yesterday (only games scheduled):

Calgary	4	Minnesota	1
Winnipeg	5	St Louis	4
Boston	3	Islanders	4
Buffalo	4	Montreal	4
Rangers	3	Quebec	0
Philadelphia	2	Washington	2
Pittsburgh	4	Hartford	2
Edmonton	5	Los Angeles	3
New Jersey	4	Chicago	3

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10-man United hold Liverpool at Anfield

LONDON, April 4, (Reuters): Manchester United successfully defended one of the proudest records in English soccer today when, despite being reduced to 10 men by the dismissal of defender Colin Gibson, they held First Division leaders Liverpool to a 3-3 draw at Anfield.

Despite some indifferent recent form, Liverpool with seven games to play remain 11 points ahead of United and 14 clear of Nottingham Forest. United, however, have played two more games than Liverpool and Forest.

United, unbeaten on visits to Liverpool since 1979, were expected to face the backlash from the Reds' second defeat of the season, at Forest on Saturday, but surprised everyone by taking a second minute lead through England captain Bryan Robson.

Collapsing

His goal put United in command and they withstood tremendous pressure before collapsing dramatically and conceding three goals in nine minutes either side of the interval.

England striker Peter Beardsley, recalled after being dropped at Nottingham, levelled in the 37th minute. Scottish defender Gary Gillespie put Liverpool ahead three minutes later and Steve McMahon hit a third just one minute into the second half.

When United left-back Gibson was sent off after 59 minutes for a foul on Steve Nicol it seemed Liverpool would be able to run up a big score.

But 10-man United stormed



West Ham's Gary Stoddard makes a sliding tackle on Everton's Adrian Heath. (Reuters wirephoto)

Forest, who face Liverpool in an English Football Association (FA) Cup semifinal on Saturday, maintained the pressure on the leaders with a 1-0 win at struggling Portsmouth, Terry Wilson scoring the only goal in the 67th minute.

Everton hung on to fourth position despite being held to a 0-0 draw at West Ham but now lead fifth-placed Queens' Park Rangers only by goal difference. Queen's Park Rangers beat fellow-Londoners Tottenham 2-0 with a goal in each half from David Kerslake to move level with Everton on 61 points. Liverpool lead with 77, United have 66 and Forest 63.

Sixth-placed Arsenal, who meet Luton Town in the League Cup final later this month, ended a run of five games without a win when they beat Norwich 2-0 with England under-21 midfielder Paul Davis, back after injury, setting up both goals for Alan Smith and Perry Groves.

At the other end of the table,

bottom club Watford were beaten 1-0 at Charlton and now look doomed to relegation as they trail 20th-placed Oxford by six points with six matches to play.

Robert Lee scored the only goal after 26 minutes to lift Charlton above Portsmouth and out of the bottom three.

Results

English Division One			
Arsenal	2	Norwich	0
Charlton	1	Watford	0
Derby	2	Newcastle	1
Liverpool	3	Manchester U	3
Leeds	0	Southampton	0
Portsmouth	0	Notts Forest	1
QPRs	2	Tottenham	0
West Ham	0	Everton	0
English Division Two			
Aston Villa	1	Oldham	2
Barnsley	1	Huddersfield	0
Blackburn	2	Shrewsbury	2
Hull	0	Middlesbrough	0
Ipswich	1	West Brom	1
Manchester C	2	Reading	0
Plymouth	1	Swindon	0
Bradford	2	Stoke	1
Sheffield U	1	Crystal P	1
English Division Three			
Aldershot	0	Southend	1
Blackpool	1	Port Vale	2
Bristol R	0	Bury	0
Chester	1	Bristol C	0
Doncaster	3	Preston	2
Fulham	3	Rotherham	1
Gillingham	1	Northampton	2
Wigan County	1	Brighton	2
Wigan	1	Barnford	0
York	0	Grimsby	2
English Division Four			
Bolton	2	Burnley	1
Cardiff	4	Newport	0
Carlisle	0	Wrexham	4
Derbyshire	2	Leyton O	2
Halifax	2	Scarbrough	2
Peterborough	0	Swansea	1
Rochdale	2	Cambridge	1
Scunthorpe	2	Crewe	1
Wolves	2	Colchester	0

Standings

English League soccer tables after matches played today (tablets under played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points).

Division One		Division Two	
Liverpool	33 23 8 2 73 30 77	Aston Villa	40 20 10 6 65 40 70
Manchester U	35 18 12 5 58 35 66	Blackburn	39 19 12 8 54 28 69
Notts Forest	33 18 9 6 58 29 63	Millwall	38 20 7 11 61 44 67
Everton	34 17 10 7 46 31 61	Bradford	38 19 10 9 61 47 67
QPR	34 18 7 9 42 32 61	Crystal P	39 18 12 7 58 56 65
Arsenal	34 16 10 8 49 29 58	Leeds	39 17 10 12 56 47 61
Wimbledon	33 13 11 9 30 38 59	Manchester C	39 17 7 15 70 52 58
Sheffield Wed	34 14 11 16 41 54 46	Stoke	40 16 10 14 47 49 58
Coventry	33 11 10 12 40 48 43	Swindon	37 15 9 13 67 52 54
Tottenham	37 11 10 16 35 45 43	Ipswich	39 15 9 15 50 46 54
Newcastle	33 10 12 11 43 46 42	Oldham	38 15 9 14 59 58 54
Southampton	35 10 12 13 41 46 42	Barnsley	38 15 8 15 55 53 53
Norwich	35 12 6 17 36 45 42	Plymouth	36 15 7 14 58 53 52
Luton	30 12 5 13 44 43 41	Hull	38 13 13 12 48 52 52
Derby	35 9 11 15 32 41 38	Leicester	38 12 10 16 52 55 46
West Ham	34 8 13 13 33 45 37	West Brom	39 12 7 20 44 61 43
Chelsea	35 8 13 15 44 60 36	Birmingham	38 10 13 15 38 58 43
Charlton	35 8 11 16 33 49 35	Sheff Wed	39 9 14 16 36 49 41
Portsmouth	34 7 12 15 29 53 33	Bournemouth	37 10 9 18 48 60 39
Oxford	34 6 12 16 39 63 30	Sheffield U	39 11 6 22 41 71 39
Watford	34 5 9 20 20 44 24	Reading	37 8 9 20 39 63 33
		Huddersfield	38 6 9 23 37 85 27